

The Middlebury Campus

Vol. 109, No. 15

Thursday, February 17, 2011

Since 1905

College establishes new Arabic major

By Adam Schaffer
NEWS EDITOR

With much of the Arab world undergoing revolutionary change, Middlebury students are taking another step towards understanding the region. Following a vote of approval at the December faculty meeting, the College will offer a Bachelor of Arts degree in Arabic.

Previously, students — while able to study the language for four years — were only awarded a minor or a focus in Middle East studies as part of the International Studies major.

The program has been a work in progress for the past decade, explained Assistant Professor of Arabic and Acting Director of the program Samuel Liebhaber.

"[Creating a major] required getting all our ducks in a row, and it took a while to get to that point," Liebhaber said. "It took time to get staff in place to assure students the possibility to finish the major."

Liebhaber emphasized, though, that the College is ahead of the curve. The concept of an Arabic major, espe-

cially in a small liberal arts college, is a fairly recent phenomenon.

The major will allow students to focus in either literature or linguistics, offering opportunities for study not previously available to students.

"The goal of the Arabic major," according to the department website, "is to achieve advanced language proficiency in the four areas of language performance: speaking, listening, reading and writing."

Students will study both Modern Standard Arabic as well as colloquial Arabic.

Those choosing the literature track will study both poetry and prose from throughout Arabic history and the pre-Islamic period with the goal of identifying key literary themes and applying critical analysis to the texts.

The linguistics track will offer students rigorous study from diachronic, synchronic and sociolinguistic perspectives to better understand the history and evolution of the language.

Students are tentatively support-

SEE ARABIC, PAGE 2



Andrew Podrygala, Photos Editor

ACTIVITIES FAIR SOLICITS STUDENT INVOLVEMENT

Students Hannah Mahon '13 (left) and Kristina Johansson '13 recruit students for the Peace and Justice Studies Club at the Spring Activities Fair. The fair was held on Thursday, Feb. 10 in the McCullough Social Space.

Old Chapel caps staff salaries

By Kyle Finck
NEWS EDITOR

Many of the College's 1,300 employees will find a different number on their paychecks in the next 18 months as Old Chapel restructures the staff salary program.

The Staff Resources Committee (SRC) in association with the Wage and Salary committee released their

plan on Feb. 4.

Chair of the committee, Vice President for Administration and Professor of American Studies Tim Spears says the goal of the changes is greater equity.

"The question is, 'How can we most fairly distribute the dollars that are available for staff salaries?'" he said. "The changes we are putting in place are not meant to save the College money."

The Human Resources department (HR) takes local, regional and national salaries from similar jobs and finds the 80th percentile, which becomes the midpoint for that staff group at the College.

"The midpoints are meant to serve as targets," HR wrote in the report. "They represent the salary that an accomplished employee should expect to make at mid-career."

In order to fulfill the College's goal of paying staff members in the top 20 percent of the market, the SRC plan has instituted a maximum salary cap to control the salaries of staff at the top of the ranges. The money retained from the cap will go to staff below the midpoint. Currently, 118 staff members are at the salary maximum.

This policy has left the 118 staff members at the maximum salary cap — many of whom are longtime employees — without the possibility for advancement in their current positions. Spears' blog, which first posted the plan, has become ground zero for the backlash against a maximum salary cap, receiving over 25 posts.

"I personally find it disturbing and demoralizing to have the College enforce caps on individual salaries," said one anonymous post. "Longtime employees who have been and continue to be strong performers should not be treated this way."

Spears has faced the critics head on, responding to many of the inflamed posts on his blog. He insists that capping maximum salaries will help the majority of the staff, pointing out that there are 808 staff members who are at or below the midpoint whose salaries would benefit from restructuring.

"The changes that we are making in capping the maximum salaries will free up more resources to allow the staff members who are at or below the midpoint to advance," Spears

SEE SRC, PAGE 4

Group housing options relocate

By Kelsey Collins
STAFF WRITER

For the past three years, students have had the option of living with a group of up to 30 other students in Palmer, Fletcher, Mumford, Meeker and Voter as part of a Superblock. However, next year, effective for room draw this spring, the Superblock model

will be reformatted to accommodate smaller groups of students and be relocated to the Mods.

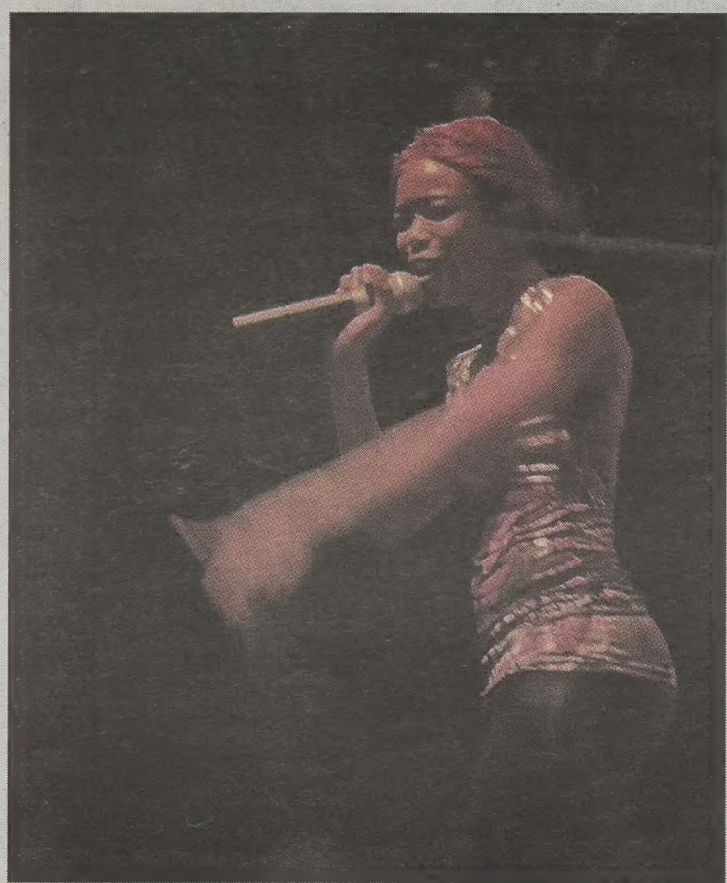
The 2010-2011 academic year saw a surge in Superblock applications, with 14 different groups applying, up from only three applications the year before. Due to this spike in interest, Residential Life has made the application pro-

cess more selective for next year.

In preparing for next year, administrators in the Center for Campus Activities and Leadership (CCAL) have been reevaluating and reexamining the purpose of the Superblock system.

"We're looking at where we've had success with this model and where we have not," said Associate Dean of Students Doug Adams. "We have found that the Superblock model has been more successful in the smaller houses. Looking at Palmer, Fletcher, Mumford, we haven't seen as much

SEE SUPERBLOCKS, PAGE 3



Neekta Abossein

DOMINIQUE YOUNG UNIQUE

Hip hop artist Dominique Unique Young performed in McCullough Social Space on Friday, Feb. 11. For more coverage, see Arts, pg. 20.

ADK attic projected to close

By Katie Gladstone
STAFF WRITER

CCAL is currently seeking alternate spaces for the Trunk, the Free Heelers and the Middlebury Mountain Club (MMC) after Public Safety deemed the attic of the Adirondack House noncompliant with fire safety regulations in January.

The Trunk is Middlebury's thrift store and the Free Heelers is Middlebury's Telemark ski club. It provides Telemark ski rentals and tunings to students and faculty.

The Mountain Club has a membership list exceeding 800 students, and offers outdoor activities all over Vermont and in the Adirondack Mountains. The club provides free equipment rentals and hosts various

workshops throughout the year designed to improve students' outdoor skills.

Sam Hoar '11, co-president of the Free Heelers, met with Doug Adams, the assistant dean of students and director for CCAL, to discuss the potential eviction.

Adams stressed that the move of the clubs was not intended to be a punishment. Rather, he hopes to move the clubs to more appropriate facilities that will enhance their operations. The most significant reason behind the issue, Adams said, was that a hot waxing iron belonging to the Free Heelers had been left unattended. Had the iron not been discovered, it could have caused a fire.

However, Adams did mention

other problems involved with the ways the clubs have previously used the space. There have been alcohol citations issued there in the past, and reports of a Mountain Club member had been sleeping in the attic.

According to Free Heelers member Morgan Boyles '12.5, Facilities Services also noted "the disposal of beer cans in the space and 'general untidiness.'"

However, Boyles said, it is not clear whether the clubs alone can be held accountable for this type of misuse, as the space had previously been left unlocked and open for use to all students. From now on, the Adirondack Attic will be open only when the clubs are actively in the space and, in

SEE ADK, PAGE 3

this week



3 Squares VT

A profile of the local food stamps program, page 5.



Seniors go to VT Senate Students in the ES senior seminar present in Montpelier, pages 12-13.

Be Mine?

Check out Twitter-sized personals submitted by students, page 16.





beyond the bubble

by Bronwyn Oatley,
Staff Columnist

The protests that have occurred in Tunisia and Egypt have been successful in fostering significant political change. In Tunisia popular protests resulted in the ousting of former President Zine El Abidine Ben. In Egypt, former President Hosni Mubarak has been forced to resign, and his National Democratic Party has been fractured.

Mirroring the protests that have culminated in these political changes, citizens have engaged in popular anti-government movements in states throughout the Middle East and Northern Africa. Iran, Bahrain, Yemen, Libya and Algeria have all experienced demonstrations in the past week, and regional governments have struggled to maintain their grip on power.

The scale of these protests has differed greatly, from several hundred people to several hundred thousand citizens. On Monday, Feb. 14, the BBC reported that thousands of citizens marched in Yemen for a fourth consecutive day, demanding the removal of President Ali Abdullah Saleh.

In a larger uprising, the *New York Times* reported that on Monday, Feb. 14 in Iran there were an estimated 20 to 30 thousand demonstrators involved in protests across the country.

While the scale of the protests has varied, protestors seem to share many similar goals for their political regimes. They call for an increase in civil liberties, demand a more just democracy and hope for a political regime that will more justly adhere to the constitution and the rules of law.

While the tones of these revolutionary chants have struck similar cords throughout this region, one must be wary of grouping all of these protests together in a unilateral analysis of regional instability.

Most basically, the protests are occurring in countries with many stark political, historical and cultural differences. While sharing similar features, the governments of these states have all developed in unique ways, and have been in power for differing lengths of time.

Regime differences will also significantly affect the way that the government deals with the protests, and the level of violence that they might use against their citizens. In Iran for example, the military has been much more willing to use violence against protestors than have been soldiers in Egypt.

The goals of protestors also vary from state to state. While all seek an increase in political liberties, it seems evident that different groups of citizens will independently decide what degree of reform they are willing to accept, and when they will decide to cease their public demonstrations.

In Egypt, the military has assumed control of the state, and has suggested that they will serve as the interim government, "for a period of six months or until [parliamentary] and presidential elections are held," reported the Canadian newspaper the *Globe and Mail*. While progressive, it remains to be seen whether or not Egyptian protestors will accept the terms of this interim regime, and if peace will follow such a transition.

Citizens in each of the aforementioned states will have to make similar concessionary decisions. They will be forced to weigh the potential benefits of continued protest against the constraints of daily life, the violence of the military and the potential for greater regional instability.

Site funds student entrepreneurs

By Jess Berry
STAFF WRITER

After spending over two years in the planning stages, the College's new program, MiddSTART, will officially launch in the coming weeks. MiddSTART, created through the Project for Creativity and Innovation in the Liberal Arts, will fund students' ideas and projects through online donations from members of the College community.

All current students will be able to fill out an application for their project on the MiddSTART website. The projects will then be reviewed and judged based on their creativity and innovation. The projects must be initiated, designed and carried out by students, and each project can receive up to \$2,000. Any student organizations eligible for SGA Finance Committee funding are not allowed to apply, and the projects must be outside of the graded academic environment.

Elizabeth Robinson, director of the Project for Creativity, is excited that the project is finally read to launch.

"The College continually seeks ways to provide students with opportunities for funding their great ideas and projects," said Robinson. "With the popularity of KIVA and Kickstarter, we thought it was a good idea to have a Middlebury-specific site where students could post their projects that were in need of funding. We haven't seen any other school with a funding vehicle like this."

One goal for MiddSTART is to create a community of students, alumni and parents surrounding the creative ideas of

students. As the MiddSTART website explains, "Our goal is to create relationships beyond donations, to collaborations — students and donors building a stronger Middlebury community and a better world."

As of right now, six student projects are set up to start receiving funding once the program is launched, with more in queue.

McConnell "Macky" Franklin '11 will be receiving funding for his project Bicycle2Bicycle, a cycling social network that has been live for just over a week now (<http://www.bicycle2bicycle.com>). The site currently has about 40 members. Franklin's goal is to strengthen the cycling community by making it easier for cyclists to find events, groups and other cyclists in their area.

"The idea for Bicycle2Bicycle started in early 2009 while I was living and training in San Martin de los Andes, Argentina," said Franklin. "I was brainstorming ways to combine my love of programming with my love of cycling and I hit upon the idea of creating a cycling social network."

Franklin is excited for MiddSTART's launch, and believes that it will be a beneficial addition to the many programs already offered by the College.

"While Old Stone Mill provides spaces for students to work and MiddCORE and MiddEntrepreneurs Club can help with



Courtesy
Macky Franklin '11 is using MiddStart to fund a website that establishes a social network for cycling enthusiasts.

the logistics of starting a project, one of the hardest things is getting funding to put your plan into action," said Franklin. "There are some great funding sources (Davis Projects for Peace, Stonehenge, etc.) but because they can only provide support for a specific number of projects each year and Middlebury is full of driven students with great ideas, there are great projects that can't be funded by these programs. MiddSTART is going to be a great asset to students."

Arabic program to see grads as early as 2012

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ive of the layout of the new major.

"I feel like the division of the major into the two distinct tracks is well conceived," new Arabic major Paul Rosenfeld '12 wrote in an e-mail, "because it gives an opportunity to study literature, if someone is interested in Arabic literature, or to pursue the track on linguistics, if someone is more interested in different aspects of the language."

agreement with the University of Jordan at Amman, though Geisler emphasized that there as well it is too early to make a confident determination, as regional stability and safety has been in flux.

While faculty overwhelmingly supported the creation of an Arabic major in the December meeting, the idea has not always garnered support.

In an interview with the *Campus* in 1980, then-Professor of Political Science Murray Dry

As of now, we still have a program in place in Alexandria that we have put on a one-semester hiatus during the crisis.

— Michael Geisler, Vice President for Schools Abroad

Rosenfeld, who has opted for the linguistics track, worries about the depth the track offers.

"The one problem with the linguistics track is that the department is still relatively small, so it can sometimes be difficult to find all of the necessary linguistics courses. But I think this problem will ease when the major becomes more established."

Because of the advanced nature of the language, the program has consistently emphasized study abroad as an essential step towards mastery. However, with the instability in Egypt, the College's only official Arabic-speaking school abroad, plans have become complicated. Nevertheless, Vice President for Language Schools, Schools Abroad and Graduate Programs Michael Geisler remains confident that there will be options for Arabic immersion for the fall 2011 semester.

"As of now, we still have a program in place in Alexandria that we have put on a one-semester hiatus during the crisis," Geisler wrote in an e-mail. Its reinstatement is pending an analysis of the safety and stability of the region.

The College is also in the final stages of an

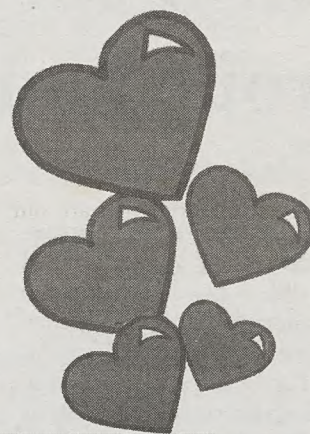
expressed concerns about the potentially political nature of an Arabic Studies program because of its questionable funding sources.

"The proposals in Arab Studies evince a political intention as opposed to an academic one," Dry told the *Campus* in 1980. "The ground for the study is the political importance of the area and the conflict, not the tendency to heighten intellectual capacities" as it would need to be to be a part of a liberal arts education.

He went on to cite the example Georgetown University Arabic Studies program, which received subsidies from Libya and awarded an endowed chair in Arab culture to "a personal friend" of Palestinian Liberation Organization leader Yassir Arafat.

Now, however, he is in support of the program for its non-partisan nature.

"[The current program's] independence and academic strength are a tribute to the administration and faculty who were responsible for bringing it into being as well as those who administer it and teach in it today," Dry wrote in an e-mail. "This reflects a positive development for the College, in my opinion."



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ADK attic to close due to fire code issues

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the case of the Free Heelers, dispensing gear to their members.

"The moves are in response to a series of violations of College policy," explained Adams. "We had been working with some of the groups to resolve previous issues when the fire safety violation occurred. One of the great challenges of the space is its shared nature. In order to access the inner spaces you had to go through another group's space. This made it a difficult for the groups to monitor and secure."

Adams hopes that operating out of separate facilities will make it easier for the clubs to maintain conditions consistent with campus safety regulations.

Adams, along with CCAL, are assisting in the relocation of the Trunk and the MMC. Both will be provided office space in Brooker House, the outdoor interest house on campus. The Free

Heelers will be permitted to continue operating out of the space until the end of ski season, when they will be able to inventory their gear.

Hoar says that because the club is "primarily involved in loaning out telemark skis and boots [and] all our gear, tuning and maintenance equipment is stored" in the Adirondack attic, CCAL is allowing the club to remain in the space until their season ends. The group will be able to use the space as they had before, though they can no longer use tuning irons to wax skis.

As soon as the season ends and CCAL finds an appropriate space for the Free Heelers on campus, they will move out of the attic.

"While it will be an inconvenience to move and [it is] sad to lose what was such an awesome, character-filled place on campus," Hoar said, "we think CCAL has dealt with the issue fairly well, and we really appreciate their cooperation in allowing us to stay in the space until spring arrives."

"We will be working with Facilities Services



File Photo

The attic of the Adirondack House will soon be closed due to fire code compliance issues.

Munford, Palmer houses to join room draw

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

cohesion or as much programming as we would have liked — the intent was to see a positive social outcome for the College. We define success as actively doing something, creating programs, and I think in the larger houses it has been harder to get that energy to fulfill that mission."

As a result, next year students who wish to apply as a Superblock can do so in units of seven, and if accepted, will live in either Cousteau, Earhart, Norgay, Perry or Ride — the Mods. Residential Life coordinators hope that providing groups with a smaller living space will create more cohesion and productivity among their inhabitants, the original goal of Superblocks.

Additionally, the Mods have a tendency to be overlooked during the initial room draw in the spring, and then are put into summer draw, and residential coordinators are faced with the task of filling a seven-person space with students who don't necessarily know each other or want to live together.

"We've historically had trouble filling the Mods. In a tight housing market like Middlebury where we house 98 percent of



Courtesy

Superblock locations will be limited to the Mods as other locations join regular room draw.

our students on campus, we can't have the Mods going into summer draw when we're trying to fill them with people who don't know each other. So filling them as a common interest space is very helpful," Adams said.

The application process for the 2011-2012 academic year will be more selective,

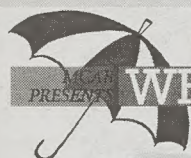
not only because it is limited to a total of 35 students, but also because the application process will be more transparent and comprehensive. Students will first submit a written application explaining why a residential space will further their shared mission or cause, then be asked to demonstrate their intent to use the residential facilities

to offer programming and social activities on a regular basis for the members of the block as well as the student body as a whole.

These presentations will be delivered to a committee that will be made up of four students from the Community Council and SGA, and four administrators. The inclusion of students on this committee is part of an effort to make the selection process more transparent and accessible to the student body.

Adams hopes these changes to the Superblock system will create a productive and positive addition to the residential life system and broaden social residential options beyond the established social houses.

"The most important element of a Superblock is that the mission and the purpose of those students will add to the campus community as a whole, and that having use of a shared space will add to their mission," Residential Systems Coordinator Karin Hall-Kolts said. "The students, and the way they use their space, should enrich the College community somehow. And that's the hope for the Mods next year — that they'll be able to form a community down there, and be able to contribute to the whole College community."



WHAT'S HAPPENING AT MIDD?

MIDDLEBURY WINTER CARNIVAL



FEBRUARY 17 TO 19 2011



WINTER CARNIVAL EDITION

BONFIRE & FIREWORKS

THURSDAY // 8 - 10 P.M. // ROSS LAWN

ORANGE CRUSH

THURSDAY // 10 P.M. // McCULLOUGH SOCIAL SPACE // TICKETS \$8 ONLINE @ GO/BOXOFFICE OR \$10 AT THE DOOR

SKI RACES

FRIDAY & SATURDAY // SNOW BOWL // EXTRA SHUTTLES RUNNING THROUGHOUT THE DAY FROM ADK CIRCLE

NORTHERN LIGHTS COMPETITION

FRIDAY // 2 P.M. // MONROE LAWN

FFF: DUE DATE

FRIDAY // 7 AND 10 P.M. // DANA AUDITORIUM

KLONDIKE RUSH

FRIDAY // 7-9 P.M. // GAMES, FIRE, SNACKS // 51 MAIN CATERING // 21+ BRING 2 FORM OF ID

COMEDIAN JOHN MULANEY

FRIDAY // 9 P.M. // McCULLOUGH SOCIAL SPACE // TICKETS \$8 ONLINE @ GO/BOXOFFICE OR \$10 AT THE DOOR

MIDDLEBURY

WINTER BALL & CORONATION

with Flossstradamus



SATURDAY // 10 P.M. // NELSON ARENA // TICKETS \$12 ONLINE @ GO/BOXOFFICE OR \$15 AT THE DOOR // 21+ BRING 2 FORM OF ID FOR BEER GARDEN

ICE SHOW - SKATE, RATTLE & ROLL

SATURDAY @ 7:30 P.M. // SUNDAY @ 2 P.M. // KENYON ARENA // TICKETS \$6 ONLINE @ GO/BOXOFFICE OR \$8 AT THE DOOR

college shorts

by Lauren Davidson, Staff Writer

Colby College professor resigns after scandal

Once a place of privacy, restrooms have been redefined for Colby College students. Professor of Economics Philip H. Brown, a tenured economics professor since 2003, resigned last month after allegedly hiding surveillance cameras in restrooms to take photos of his female students. The incident occurred while chaperoning a course in China for Colby's "Jan Plan."

The "violation of student privacy" was discovered on Jan. 22 when two students found the evidence while searching the professor's hard drive. Another student in the class later identified herself as the female in the photos who was "nude from the waist down." The photo was most likely taken from the hotel restroom where the students were staying in China.

The investigation is still pending, and Brown has not yet been officially charged by the police.

— The Huffington Post

UC mascot charged for disorderly conduct

In an attempt to excite fans, The University of Cincinnati (UC) mascot is now facing charges of disorderly conduct. Industrial design student M. Robert Garfield made national headlines while dressed as a bearcat during a Dec. football game against the University of Pittsburgh.

Garfield resisted arrest from the UC police after refusing orders to stop throwing snowballs into the crowd. A camera phone video was taken of Garfield's arrest, and has since become popular on YouTube and been featured on ESPN and Fox News.

Garfield has not yet received his sentence on the charge of disorderly conduct, but has been removed from his position as bearcat mascot.

— UWIRE

Men more likely to forgive cheating lovers

A new study from the University of Texas at Austin finds that some infidelity in relationships may be worse than others. According to the research provided by Jaime Confer, a doctoral candidate in evolutionary psychology at the University, gender is an important factor in deciding whether the relationship will continue.

The study consisted of a survey of over 700 college students. Fifty percent of male participants were more likely to stay in a relationship with a partner who had a homosexual affair, while only 22 percent would if it was a heterosexual affair. Women were much less likely to stay with a partner in an affair of either gender.

The study concluded that these results might indicate that men see a homosexual affair as less threatening than a heterosexual one.

— UWIRE

SRC plan to include merit-based pay

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

said.

But Sandy LeGault — a staff member at the Bread Loaf School of English — says that increasing new staff wages at the expense of long time employees sends the wrong message.

"I applaud Middlebury's efforts to provide a livable wage for everyone, but regret that it's being done on the backs of long-time staff, who used to feel that their experience and commitment were valued," she said on Spears' blog.

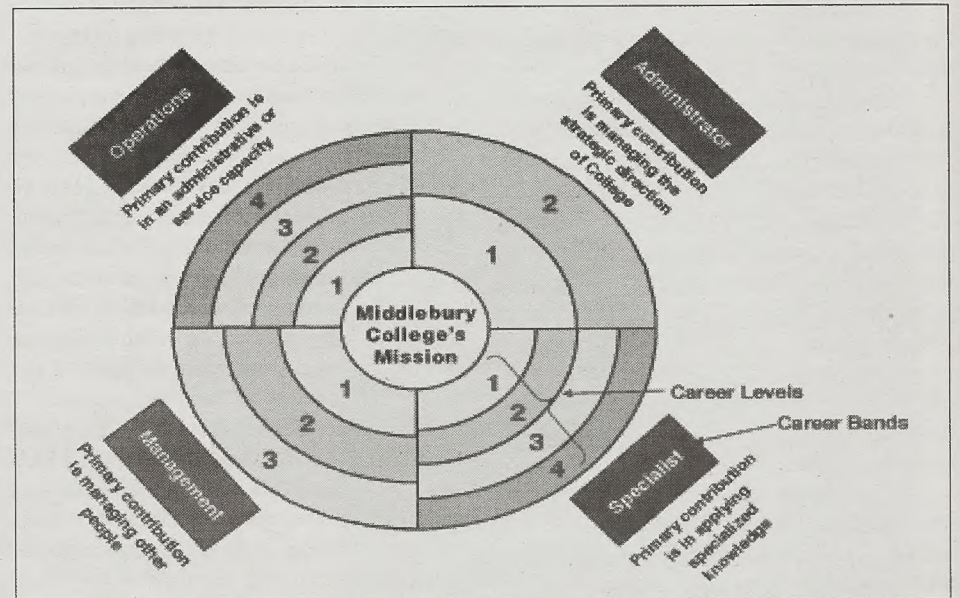
The economic downturn in 2008 and 2009, which left the College's endowment \$300 million short of its projected value before the recession, crippled the salary pool, forcing the College to reduce its staff by nearly 15 percent since the summer of 2008.

"I know so many people who are working harder than ever to make the staff reductions work, often by working uncompensated overtime because they feel an obligation to Middlebury students, to their colleagues, to the whole enterprise," said LeGault. "The new system is erecting a brick wall."

Vice President for Finance and Treasurer Patrick Norton explained that the new system will still offer financial incentives for staff members who reach the maximum.

"Staff at the maximum of their salary will be eligible for annual increases — however, these increases will be distributed as single sum payments," wrote Norton in an e-mail.

Spears is also quick to point out that since the midpoint is based on the external market for jobs, if salaries increase away from the College, staff salaries will similarly increase.



Courtesy

The SRC plan is designed to fit into the larger mission of the College.

"If past history is a guide, the markets for these particular jobs will increase," he said.

Not everyone opposes the SRC plan. One commenter applauded the restructuring, saying that the staff members below the midpoint are the ones who need the salary increases to "make ends meet" the most.

"The few folks at the top should consider their position — that of relative privilege — and consider the fact that the majority of staff members somehow manage to make ends meet with less," said the anonymous commenter. "The disappointment voiced here regarding how these changes will affect a minority of staff at the very top lacks perspective and reeks of entitlement."

Staff raises will now be based on merit,

which Spears says is largely supported.

"The staff has said in survey after survey that they strongly believe in merit pay," he said. "Which means if they do really good work, they feel that the College should reward their efforts with a compensation program that distinguishes really good work from adequate work."

Staff who "consistently meet expectations" will receive a one percentage point raise, while staff who "significantly exceed expectations" will receive a higher percentage raise. In addition, single bonuses will be given to five percent of the staff for exemplary work.

The SRC expects that 75 percent of the staff will "consistently meet expectations" while 25 percent will "significantly exceed expectations."

SGAupdate

by Kathryn DeSutter, News Editor

Senators discuss gym for Ross, mid-year budget report

During its Feb. 13 meeting, the Student Government Association (SGA) discussed the possibility of opening a small gym in Ross Commons. Members also reviewed the mid-year budget report.

Citing concerns about the distance of the gym for students who live in both Atwater and Ross Commons, President Riley O'Rourke '12 explained that an alternate gym space would also help to alleviate some of the high traffic common at the Fitness Center.

O'Rourke currently envisions purchasing a small number of machines and a few free weights. He will meet with Ross Commons administrators this week to discuss the possibility of using a space currently labeled as a "game room." Ross Commons Representative Anna Esten '13 explained that the space remains almost permanently locked due to concerns about vandalism, and is therefore widely unused by Ross Commons students.

The new gym would be controlled through keycard access and open to stu-

dents only. Since there would be no attendant present, students would use the machines at their own risk with the benefit of not being restricted by set operating hours.

O'Rourke estimates that the total cost of this addition would be \$20,000 to \$25,000.

Although O'Rourke emphasized that the Ross space would be the SGA's first priority, upon the successful establishment of a small gym in Ross, other spaces for consideration would include the Atwater Library, Battell Hall basement and Forest Hall basement.

SGA Treasurer and Finance Committee Chair Will McConaughy '11 presented the Senate with a summary of the mid-year budget report.

McConaughy reviewed the publications precedent that was set earlier this fall, which now tailors the amount of funding student publications receive to the type of product they publish. McConaughy explained that this was to account for the different operating costs of publications

based on color printing and publishing frequency.

In addition to the budgeted money that is allocated to student organizations for the fall and spring, the SGA currently holds a reserve fund of approximately \$400,000. Although this amount is due to a dramatic increase in the Activities Fee for students that took place years ago, any funding granted by the SGA that remains unused by student organizations at the conclusion of the academic year also returns to this fund. SGA members are currently debating the best uses of this fund.

At the conclusion of the meeting, O'Rourke also introduced the idea of permanently writing into the budget the cost of keeping the Davis Family Library open 24 hours a day during the week before exam period. Although the College funds the extra operating hours during exam period, the SGA currently funds the week prior out of its own operating budget.

public safety log

January 31 - February 14, 2011

DATE	TIME	INCIDENT	CATEGORY	LOCATION	DISPOSITION
02/02/11	2:22 p.m.	Harassment	Hazing	The College	Referred to Commons Dean
02/05/11	10:08 p.m.	Drug Violation	Paraphernalia	Allen	Referred to Commons Dean
02/05/11	11:09 p.m.	Outage	Power	Perkins	Referred to Facilities Services
02/06/11	10:21 p.m.	Drug Violation	Marijuana	Allen	Referred to Commons Dean
02/08/11	Unknown	Theft	Property found	Palmer	Referred to Commons Dean
02/08/11	9:30 p.m.	Theft	Property found	Kenyon Arena	Referred to Commons Dean
02/08/11	4:00 p.m.	Damage	Property damaged	P Lot	Referred to Commons Dean
02/11/11	6:00 p.m.	Vandalism	Property damaged	Hadley House	Referred to Commons Dean
02/12/11	1:32 a.m.	Disturbance	Noise	Allen	Referred to Commons Dean
02/14/11	7:20 a.m.	Vandalism	Property damaged	Ross Commons Dining	Referred to Commons Dean
02/14/11	9:40 a.m.	Vandalism	Property damaged	Forest Hall	Referred to Commons Dean

The Department of Public Safety reported giving 11 alcohol citations between January 31 and February 14, 2011.

3SQUARES VT

STRETCHES HUNGER RELIEF

EFFORTS ACROSS STATE

Charlotte Gardiner

Local News Editor

One in seven families in the state of Vermont cannot provide three nutritious meals for their loved ones each day. Statistics like these are what motivated Hunger Free Vermont, a not-for-profit organization founded in 1993 that works to combat hunger, to adopt the 3SquaresVT program, Vermont's federal nutrition program. 3SquaresVT is part of the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Sustainable Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). SNAP also runs in other areas of the United States.

Since the program's founding in 2000, it has grown substantially. Families, senior citizens and disabled community members make up the core of eligible participants.

Angela Smith-Dieng '00, who graduated from Middlebury with a BA in English, began her job at 3SquaresVT after working for other national advocacy programs. A native of the Adirondacks, Smith-Dieng worked in Washington D.C. with a national coalition that extended aid to immigrants detained in the United States, and she worked behind-the-scenes to advocate for human rights. She also has past experience working in direct services, like the food pantry, which gave her experience interacting with people from different backgrounds.

"I wanted to come back to Vermont and to work in the anti-hunger world again. I wanted to do something that would combine my two past work worlds, and Hunger Free Vermont does that," she said. "Now, I work closely with agencies who feed people and I do feel connected to these people."

As advocacy manager for 3SquaresVT at Hunger Free Vermont, Smith-Dieng coordinates the program's statewide outreach efforts. She works with the Vermont state agency, the Department for Children and Families and several community service providers, like Addison Community Action. These organizations help eligible individuals apply to 3SquaresVT.

Department of Children and Families contracts Hunger Free Vermont, located in South Burlington, Vt., to conduct outreach for 3SquaresVT. Its goal is to curb the effects of hunger. For more information, email the organization at <http://www.hungerfreevt.org> or contact the group at (802) 865-0255.

Data from the USDA showed that in 2008, 79 percent of the 66,000 eligible people participated in 3SquaresVT, an increase of six percent from 2007.

"The stats highlight some of the progress Vermont has made," said Smith-Dieng. "We need to reach more eligible candidates though. There is still work to be done."

Smith-Dieng said that only 65 percent of employed individuals, who nonetheless were eligible for food stamps, joined the program in 2008, which also represents a one-point percentage drop from 2007's 66 percent. Statistics also show that currently a meager 34 percent of eligible seniors are part of 3SquaresVT, and that the state ranked 11th in overall participation rates, compared to the other SNAP programs.

"We have to try and reach out to more of these people," said Smith-Dieng.

She believes there are three main reasons for the low participation rates. First, there is a lack of information and awareness, so many do not realize they are eligible for aid. Those who are employed question why they receive benefits, and families do not understand that local service providers, like Middlebury's HOPE (Helping Overcome Poverty's Effects), also help people join programs, such as 3SquaresVT. Though an online application aims to boost current participation rates, Smith-Dieng sees the application process as another culprit plaguing Vermont's involvement in the program.

"The process is long and daunting, and challenging to complete and fill out," she said. "There is an interview and much documentation is needed as proof, which is difficult for those with limited English proficiency too."

The final reason, according to Smith-Dieng, that explains the USDA's results is that people have a hard time asking for help. This fact caused the program to change its name from the Food Stamp Program to 3SquaresVermont; it sought to lose the "food stamp" stigma.

"We want a more accessible and anonymous program," said Smith-Dieng. "The

program is also helping Vermont because federal money is being pumped back into the state. All benefits are spent in local grocery stores, so the program is a financial stimulus for the state."

3SquaresVT uses this message to market its program, which in turn also helps Vermonters feel comfortable applying.

Currently, there are 90,566 people in the 3SquaresVT program, which has funneled about \$11 million each month into the Vermont economy. In 2009, USDA studies showed that for every \$1 the program gave to its participants, \$1.84 was added to the Vermont economy. As the 3SquaresVT website states, "Eating healthier food is good for you and benefit dollars are good for Vermont's economy."

Those accepted by the program receive a "Vermont Express" or an "Electronics Benefits Transfer" card, which works exactly like a debit card and can be swiped. The amount of money on the card depends on the number of members participating in the program from each household. The card arrives in the mail on the first day of each month, and is used to purchase food. Alcohol, cigarettes, hot prepared meals, pet food, paper and household products, however, are not viable purchases. On average, participants save \$250 a month through the program. Children are also eligible for free school lunches; currently, 97 percent of schools in Vermont serve both breakfast and lunch to about 94,000 students.

Eligibility, which is determined by the Department for Children and Families, is contingent on income. For example, a household of four must make less than \$3,401 a month to qualify for the program.

Smith-Dieng admits that the USDA report is outdated, and that since 2008, there have been several changes in Vermont. 3SquaresVT has expanded its eligibility requirements by raising the maximum income, allowing more Vermonters to join, especially in light of the recent economic recession.

"What the rate will look like is tough to predict because there have been so many changes," she said. "We are continuing to work hard to expand access and we are hopeful to improve."

Once the census level from 2010 is published, the organization can better estimate current participation rates.

"In the future, I would love for there to be 100 percent participation," said Smith-Dieng. "There are long-term health benefits to the program too. Our goal is to make sure all those eligible receive these benefits to really make a difference."

Locally, Addison Community Action (ACA), located at 700 Exchange St. in Middlebury, partners with 3SquaresVT. The center, which offers services to those struggling to make ends meet, helps people fill out their application to the "food stamps" program.

Donna Rose, who has been working at ACA for over ten years, said she got involved with the 3SquaresVT program for Addison County because she "believe[s] in the mission of economic and social justice for all people."

Rose also helps out at the center's food shelf, which many families use to supplement their monthly benefit to 3SquaresVT.

"[3SquaresVT] is the safety net that prevents hunger and real starvation in this country," she said.

Director of ACA Karen Haury has been with the organization since 1996. She feels 3SquaresVT is a "much needed and beneficial program to the residents of Vermont," as she sees clear ties between a "healthy diet to a healthy life for adults and children."

In January 2011 alone, Haury found that the ACA food shelf helped 217 households, about 501 people. Of these individuals, 75 percent were also members of 3SquaresVT.

The future is bright for 3SquaresVT, as it seeks to increase its participation rates for eligible, and especially working, candidates. The program also hopes to build on its partnerships with local organizations, like ACA, so individuals across the state of Vermont are guaranteed three nutritious meals a day.

Visit the 3SquaresVT program website at <http://www.vermontfoodhelp.com> to learn more and to find out about ways to get involved with the organization.



Meet Angie Wade

The owner of Green Mountain Shoe and Apparel connects with her customers on a daily basis, page 6.

Otter Creek Brewery serves snacks

Soon visitors will enjoy soup and appetizers on tours of Middlebury's favorite brewery, page 7.



The Pragmatist



by Hillary Chutter-Ames

As Vermont addresses its \$150 billion projected budget shortfall for the 2011 fiscal year, it will likely make the biggest cuts to human services, a sector that represents nearly 40 percent of the state budget. Toward this end, Vermont has plans for serious health care reform. Governor Peter Shumlin recently unveiled his propositions to reform Vermont's current health care system; he wants to transition to a single payer system, possibly by 2014.

The governor's plan emphasizes implementing a "real" single payer system, a publicly financed structure into which all Vermonters pay, so it is not attached to employment. The proposal will first create the health care exchanges mandated by the federal reform. The exchanges are intended to streamline paperwork and availability of information regarding insurance policies in the state. From there the plan would be to transition into a single payer exchange, which would negotiate insurance premiums. Having a single payer system spreads health care costs, which lowers premiums and prevents insurance companies from denying care.

The eventual transition to a single payer system would allow tighter control of health care costs, and would provide coverage for all Vermonters. Supporters of the proposal also argue that high health care costs are prohibitive to businesses operating in the state, and that controlling these costs is essential to encourage business growth and job creation. The projected savings for the first year, however, are at \$500 million. While not an insignificant amount, it represents a small dent in Vermont's overall budget shortfall.

Vermont's reform plans come at the same time as state courts around the country are hearing cases about the federal health care reform passed in the fall. Cases have been brought against the federal reform in 26 states, but Vermont is not one of them. These cases argue that requiring individuals to purchase health care insurance is unconstitutional, although a single payer system would save individuals, businesses, the state and the federal governments money. A single payer system would be more efficient and less expensive, while providing care to the more than 50 million Americans without health insurance. Caring for the uninsured contributes significantly to rising health care costs, costs state governments (and Washington) can no longer sustain. But the single payer system does raise the specter of socialized medicine.

The governor's proposal also includes the creation of a Vermont Health Reform Board, which has some legislators worried. The board would develop a state health care budget, assess hospital funds and help set insurance rates. Its five members would be appointed by the governor, as is currently done with Vermont Fish and Wildlife and other state boards. Several state senators have expressed concern that this board would be too powerful, but the legislature would retain the ability to make final decisions, while the board would help to determine best practices and conduct oversight.

The Shumlin administration would like to see the legislature pass this bill during the spring session, but lawmakers are unsure. I urge the legislature to put this issue near the top of its agenda, and to engage in a discussion over the concrete benefits and drawbacks of the plan. The prospect of health care coverage for all Vermonters and health care savings is too

Hillary Chutter-Ames '13 is from South Hero, Vt.

Localvore: Middlebury pizza pies satisfy

By Claire Sibley

STAFF WRITER

Pizza: there is something inexplicably appealing in the word, and the possibilities its myriad of forms suggest. In the United States, it has become a cultural icon and a phenomenon, a comfort food and, among other things, a bribe for family time. Whatever else it is, the majority of mouths agree that a good pie is delicious.

That is not to say, of course, that all pizza is good. On the contrary, there exist ample ways to commit sacrilege in the sacred rite of pizza-making: the underdone dough, the carbonated crust, the unmelted cheese and — Alas! — the ever-so-slightly-gelatinous vegetable toppings.

The trick, then, is sorting out the wheat from the chaff. And the question of the hour is where to find the best Middlebury slices: Green Peppers, Ramunto's, Sama's Café or Pazzo's Pizzeria. For the purposes of this investigation, Flatbread (of Marble Works) will be excluded, falling under a separate, albeit delicious, category.

Sama's Café

Closest to campus we encounter the pizza selection of Sama's Café, where pizzas come in entire pies of the buyer's design, or by the slice in three varieties: cheese, pepperoni or Margarita. All are baked within the large and rustic wood-burning oven, which warms the atmosphere of the quiet café. The pizza itself is served in generous portions at \$3.99 a slice; the cheese is fully melted but not burned, its flavor fresh and in excellent complement to the sauce — a subtly spiced but nondescript tomato. The crust is fluffy and holds up well to its toppings, chewy and never underdone. In short, it is the familiar New York rendition of the pie, and it is done very well.

Pazzo's Pizzeria

Further in town, a few doors down from Carol's Hungry Mind Café, the delights of Pazzo's Pizzeria are tucked into an alley. Pazzo's, formerly under different ownership and known as Neil and Otto's, is open Monday through Saturday for dinner and delivery at 4 p.m. The service is warm and dedicated, and the fare is large in selection,

including the offer of \$9 large cheese pizzas for college students. Like Sama's, Pazzo's pizza is sturdy, thin but chewy. Of all the Middlebury pizzas, theirs boasts the sauce with the best spice, basil and oregano in elegant and quiet complement to the rich tomato. It is also impossible not to note their delectable Pizza Sticks, confections of cheese, garlic and butter.

Green Peppers

Across from Shaw's, the pizza odyssey finds Green Peppers, open from 10.30 a.m. daily through dinner. Unlike Pazzo's, Green Peppers does not deliver, but has a menu of great variety. Their pizzas are available by the slice at \$4.95, or in small, medium and large pies. The slices are served in large portion — and the cheese in even greater proportion, overwhelming the crust hidden beneath; this latter part is the highlight of the pie, a deeper and pan-fried dough, surprisingly herbed and delightfully buttery.

Ramunto's

Finally, nestled next to Middlebury's Discount Beverage and Greg's Meat Market, is the jewel of the Middlebury pizza scene: Ramunto's. By the slice, it is the cheapest in town, charging between \$4.50 and \$5.50 for two slices, depending on the toppings. The choices abound; you will find yourself pleasantly overwhelmed in a world of Sicilian and New York crusts, Pepperoni and cheese, Meat Lover's and buffalo chicken. The crust is hand-tossed and tastes like it, the Sicilian a triumph of fluffiness that perfectly balances the acidic and fresh tomato covering it. The New York crust is equally well done, emerging both crisp and chewy from the oven. The wholeness of flavor prevents much else from being said of the pizza: it speaks for itself. By the slice, Ramunto's is the best in town.

As this frigid Vermont winter comes to its nigh-unbearably slow end, one of the best ways to finish off a long eve of study — or desperate procrastination — is in the comfort of a cardboard delivery box and the company of friends. Whether you seek convenience, an off-campus break, a thick-crust Sicilian, a quick slice or late-night pizza sticks, Middlebury's collection of pizza parlors has something to sate your desire.

one in 8,700

where the personalities of middlebury proper are celebrated

By Connor Wood

STAFF WRITER

Angie Wade has come a full circle. Upon finishing high school, she started work at Lazarus Department Store. Owned and managed by Stan Lazarus, the building sat at 20 Main St.; if you lived in Middlebury and you wore shoes, you most definitely bought them there. Wade worked there for two years, during which time she learned from Lazarus the finer points of properly fitting a pair of shoes.

"Stan was a great guy, very giving," said Wade. "He always had doughnut holes and vanilla wafers for the kids."

Though Lazarus wanted her to stay on at the store, Wade stopped work there to raise a family.

During this time, Lazarus was forced to defend the store against a TV ad suggesting that both the business and the town would benefit if the building, which sits at the entrance to the MarbleWorks district, was razed. Lazarus "dug his heels in" and placed the building in a trust. But the store eventually closed, and a series of tenants cycled through the building.

By this time, Wade had returned to the shoe business. In 1997, she opened her own store, The Shoe Center, next to the movie theater in Middlebury. Five years later, the Preservation Trust of Vermont approached her about the possibility of moving into the original building.

"They wanted me to sell clothing, which I'd never been as interested in," Wade said. "But Ames [department store] had just left and there wasn't even really a place to buy underwear. So I took the leap and came over."

Looking around her store, Green Mountain Shoe and Apparel, she pauses: "I think Stan would be proud of me."

There are still people who remember the store as Lazarus's, and Wade is happy to carry on his tradition. Running the store is a lot of work, she said, but it is work she enjoys.

As with all jobs, however, there are a few aspects that Wade does not like. For example, shoplifting is increasingly an issue.

"I don't like standing over people, but I've caught a lot of people in the last year, so if it's someone I don't recognize, unfortunately, I feel like I have to keep an eye on them," said Wade.

Despite this challenge, her customers are her favorite aspect of the job.

"I've gotten to know quite a few," said Wade.

Sometimes people simply come in to chat. One woman stopped by to tell Wade that she had retired and planned on taking a trip to Tanzania with her husband. In the last three years Wade has noticed more college students in the store.

"It's nice to see where they're from," she said.

For Wade, perhaps the best aspect of a loyal customer base is the opportunity to watch people grow up.

"There was a little boy and his mom would bring him in, but he hated to try on shoes," said Wade. "He'd scream and cry, so his mom stopped bringing him and would just pick up shoes and bring them home. Well he's grown up now, and he comes in happy to see me and get his feet measured and get a pair of shoes."



Joanna Lyons

Angie Wade has been the owner of Green Mountain Shoe and Apparel since she opened the store in 2002. Her expertise in the shoe industry extends back to her days working at Lazarus Department Store after graduating high school.

Localbrief

By James Schwerdtman, Staff Writer

Ever gone on a tour at one of Vermont's finest local breweries and reached the end prepared to enjoy that long awaited (and perhaps necessary) pint, poured straight from the source, and then thought that the only thing missing was a cup of soup or a plate of fries? This spring, Middlebury's own Otter Creek Brewery plans to fulfill this wish, and will open a restaurant adjacent to the current brewery.

Started in 1991, the brewery has long offered tours of its facility and encouraged patrons to visit its Visitors Center, where small samples of the microbrew are available for tasting. This December the brewery applied for a First Class liquor license, which allows it to serve beer and not just tasters on its premises, and it recently received approval.

Over the past weekend, Feb. 12-13, the first pints were poured, and plans to serve light fare and appetizers are underway.

"We don't want to compete with the other local fine food retailers," said Emily Wright, manager of the Visitor's Center. "We will be serving mainly soups and appetizers, items that will pair well with our beers and highlight their taste."

The plans to add food came from a desire to enhance the brewery's tour experience and to offer other complements that would leave people satisfied. However, all hope to keep the focus on the

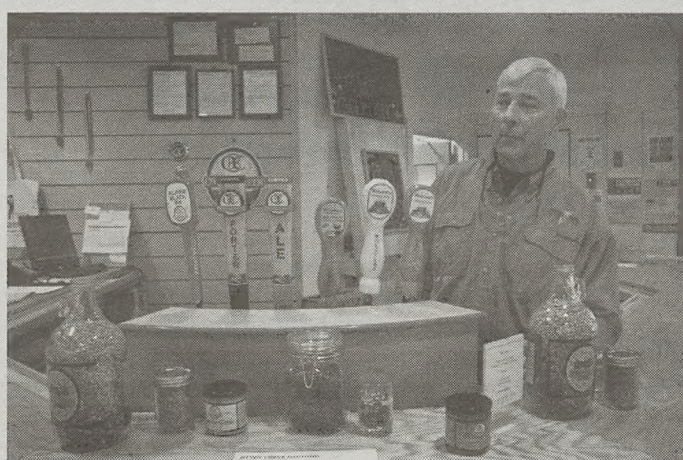
Otter Creek Brewery pours pints galore

beer and the brewery.

"I've been on the tour once before, but this is the first time I've gotten a pint," said Ben Weitz '11, one of the first to enjoy the brewery's newest perk. "I don't know how much food I'll be eating, but I definitely like the idea."

Beyond this addition to the Visitor's Center, Otter Creek has no other immediate plans to expand or upgrade the brewery. It instead seeks to continue working in the same footprint it has been in and to serve patrons and fans the beer they enjoy. The reaction thus far to the pints has been expectedly positive.

"We want to create the Visitor's Center to be a nice marketing center for the brewery," said Wright. "We want people to fall in love with the place and to create a cool atmosphere. If you like microbrews and that kind of beer, this is the place to go."



Otter Creek Brewery, which plans to open a restaurant next to its current brewing facility, recently received approval for a First Class liquor license. The brewery now offers patrons who have just finished the tour a chance to enjoy a pint of their favorite beer at the bar.



Eleanor Horowitz, Photo Editor

Peace Corps at Middlebury College

Information Session

McCardell Bicentennial Hall 104
287 Bicentennial Way

Monday, February 28th
5:00 - 6:00 PM



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local lowdown

One-World Library Project presentation

Feb. 17, 6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Tonight, enjoy a presentation entitled "Not Lost in Translation: Yoko Ogawa's The Housekeeper and the Professor," at the Lawrence Memorial Library in Bristol. Steve Snyder, Professor of Japanese Studies, will discuss the challenges of translating Ogawa's popular book from Japanese into English. The talk is part of the One-World Library Project, a rich collection of books and films about other world cultures, which is held at the library, located at 40 North St. in Bristol. Don't miss this fascinating presentation from a Middlebury professor! Call (802) 453-4741 or visit <http://www.oneworldlibraryproject.org> for more information.

Presentation on Vermont Yankee

Feb. 18, 7 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Head down to the Ilsley Library this Friday to learn about Middlebury's energy future and Vermont Yankee, a nuclear power plant in Vernon, Vt., which generates over one third of the state's electricity. Meredith Angwin, director of the Ethan Allen Institute's Energy Education Project, will give a presentation and lead a question and answer session. Angwin, a physical chemist, works to educate Vermonters about their energy options and helps them make choices based on the facts. The Addison County Republican Committee is sponsoring the talk.

Friday night movie

Feb. 18, 7:30 p.m.

Not feeling MCAB's Free Friday Film this week? Head over to the Vergennes Opera House (VHO) to enjoy a free screening of Mamma Mia!, sponsored by Linda's Apparel and Gifts. The movie, inspired by Abba songs, is sure to entertain all. Make the night into an off-campus adventure, and check out the great restaurants Vergennes has to offer too. Call the VHO at (802) 877-6737 for more information.

Performance at Town Hall Theater

Feb. 18 and 19, 8 p.m. - 10 p.m., Feb. 19 and 20, 2 p.m.

This weekend at Middlebury's Town Hall Theater (THT), husband and wife acting duo Jim Stapleton and Diana Bigelow will star in "Henry and Emily: the Muses of Massachusetts." This engaging play is based on the lives and work of writers Henry David Thoreau and Emily Dickinson. Tickets are \$17/\$15, and are available at the THT box office. You can also visit <http://townhalltheater.org> or call (802) 382-9222 to purchase tickets. Don't miss this great event!

Author reading

Feb. 19, 2 p.m. - 3 p.m.

Join local author and College Archivist Bob Buckeye for a discussion of his recent work, a biography of Middlebury photographer Hazel Dow Wood. The biography is the final installment in Buckeye's Quarry Books series on important people in Addison County. The talk will be held at the Vermont Book Shop, located at 38 Main St.



Have you heard about the chili festival this year?

Know something about Middlebury? Send local news tips to campus@middlebury.edu.

The Middlebury Campus

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Editorial

The staff editorial represents the official opinion of The Middlebury Campus as decided by the editorial board.

It is an exciting time for young entrepreneurs at Middlebury College — and consequently, for everyone else as well. With the impending opening of the new student-run Juice Bar, the recent opening of the on-campus thrift store The Trunk, the new micro financing group MiddStart and the grocery-delivery business MiddShop, this spring seems to be something of a renaissance for student-led organizations and initiatives that seek to improve campus life and increase the wealth of resources available to students. Beyond the intrinsic benefits of these initiatives, we also encourage the student body to recognize and appreciate the boom of entrepreneurial spirit on campus.

Although the College weathered the recession admirably, managing to keep our proverbial head above water despite significant hits to our endowment, there was a noticeable downturn in available resources and operating hours of food venues. We fully recognized, both at the time and still today, that sacrifices were necessary to the continued achievement of the College's mission of providing a top-notch, worldwide education to its students. The administration made many unpopular decisions, but overall it managed to ensure that the necessities of the Middlebury College experience remained intact.

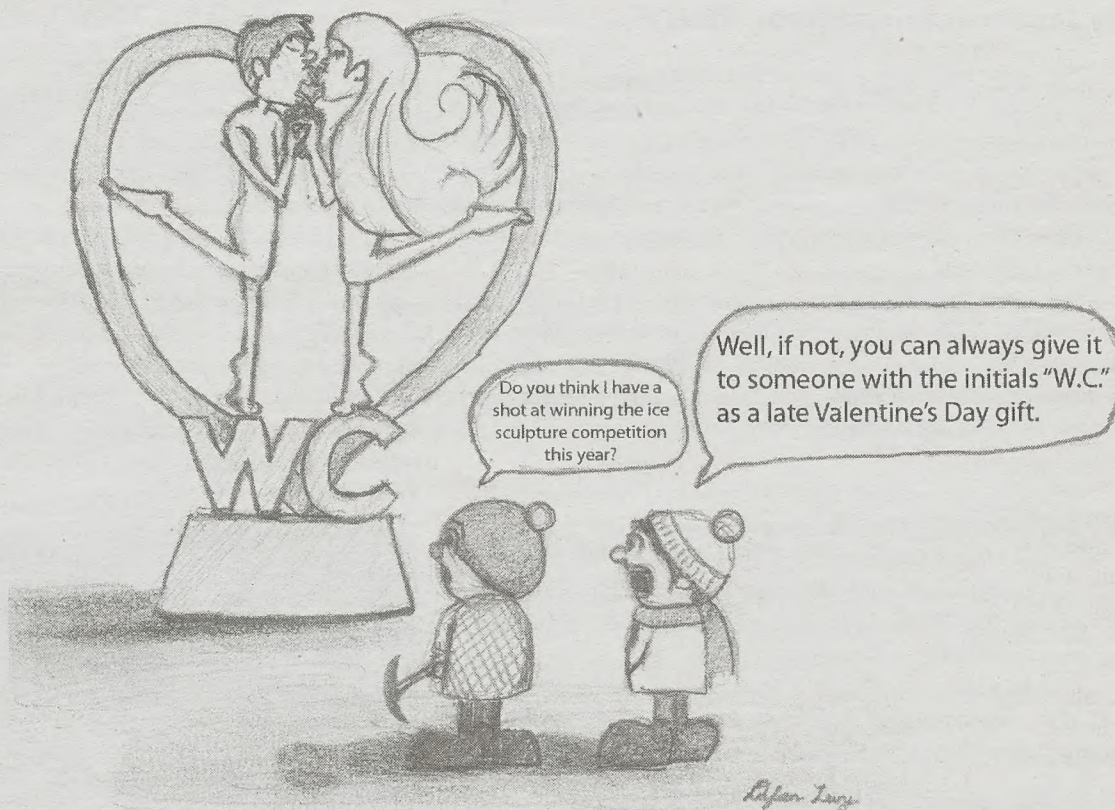
Now, as we emerge from another frigid Winter Term and embrace the coming spring, it is encouraging to see old stand-bys, like the Juice Bar, re-emerging on the wings of student leadership. With creative student minds now running the show both from behind the scenes and behind the counter, we look forward to the revival of a once-frequented beverage option, and we are eager to partake in the benefits of its transformation into an additional food source.

The Trunk, too, represents the ingenuity and determination of Middlebury students. Rather than the enormous piles of too-bulky-to-travel stuff that inevitably piles up outside of dorms on move-out day, students can now bring such goods to Adirondack House attic. Here, students can barter for goods with their trade-ins, or offer cash (nothing over \$5). As if recycling unwanted text books were not green enough, all profits will be donated to environmental initiatives on campus.

While the students responsible should be commended for taking these opportunities, we cannot forget the administration that has provided them. The idea to put the Juice Bar into the hands of students came directly from Old Chapel, and while the Trunk was not the administration's brainchild, it was still receptive to the shop's growth and provided the materials for the fledgling business to take root.

These opportunities benefit the student body in general and provide an especially valuable learning experience for the students at the helm. The chances for entrepreneurship are not inherent at liberal arts institutions, where the focus is invariably on academics. By providing such opportunities for students, the administration is effectively killing two birds with one stone: returning much appreciated resources to the student body, and adding a new dimension to the education received by the lucky few who have taken charge.

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Dylan Levy

Notes from the desk: Ian Trombulak

In defense of an all-male Dungeon

In the fall of 2008, I arrived on Middlebury College campus to learn, with some disappointment, that I would be living on an all-male hall for the duration of the year. My friends at other schools expressed sympathy for me, as I bemoaned the constant "sausage-fest" that would surely comprise my first year at college. As I settled in to the basement of Allen, lovingly dubbed "The Dungeon" by past residents, I prepared myself for a year devoid of the coed excitement promised to me by years and years of college movies and TV shows.

By the end of the first semester, you couldn't have paid me to live anywhere else on campus. While the initial thrill of coed hallways was wearing thin for my friends at other schools, the good times in the Dungeon were just starting. Our rooms weren't spacious and our hallway was narrow and dark (some would even say dank), but it didn't take long for the Dungeon to feel like home. Unassaulted by internal drama and unspoken friction, the bonds built in the Dungeon were made to last. By the end of the year, we weren't just friends — we were brothers. Nine of us made the transition together to one Coffrin hall, in an attempt to replicate the magic of our freshman year. This year, despite being scattered across campus by Middlebury's dismal excuse for a housing registration system, my best friends at this school (and one who isn't here anymore) remain former Dungeonites.

I have recently heard that the College may pursue the idea of making the "Grungy Dunny" a co-ed hallway. I've heard of several potential reasons behind the switch: 1. The College is moving away from all single-sex hallways in connection with the new gender-neutral housing policy. 2. More citations are written, and more dorm damage is incurred, in the Dungeon (and all male-only hallways in general) than any other first-year hallway on campus. 3. The College receives more negative feedback from people living in the Dungeon than from any other hallway on campus.

I don't want to be misunderstood: I am 100 percent in favor of the gender-neutral housing option for all students, and I think it's downright foolish that until this year, the option for consenting members of the opposite sex to live together was off the table. For such a heteronormative policy to persist for so long at a school with such a liberal pedigree as Middlebury is astounding, and I commend

Elizabeth King and Joey Radu for breaking down those walls once and for all.

But what's the point of going from one extreme to the other? Surely if we can choose to live with the opposite sex, we should be able to choose to live without the opposite sex as well. Providing a new option while taking another one away is not progress, and it's not acceptable. This isn't about sexism or misogyny. It's about making sure that every single person on this campus has a living situation that they feel comfortable with, and that they have some modicum of choice as to the gender of the people in their immediate environment.

It's not that I don't like women, or even that I don't like their company. I really do — some of my best friends are

female, and they are some of the funniest, most intelligent, creative, outspoken and inspiring individuals I've ever met. It's just that we get along so much better when we can choose when to be around each other. Men behave differently when there are no women around — that's just a fact — and I believe the chance to be socially unrestricted in that way is what allowed for such tremendous bonds to form in the Dungeon.

As for the second potential reason for un-Dungeoning the Dungeon, several ideas come immediately to mind that would cure the hand without chopping off the arm, so to

say. Although I'm limited in this forum by space, I would be thrilled to engage in a discussion of alternative solutions to the Dungeon's disciplinary problems that do not involve gender desegregation. In regards to the final potential reason, my experience, and those of my fellow Dungeonites, seems to indicate that while the Dungeon may be a negative experience to some, it is felt by many others to be quite beneficial. I believe that all perspectives should be considered in this decision, not just a select few.

In the end, the fact is that there is something inexplicably beautiful about the Dungeon tradition, and to break it would truly be a shame. Please, Middlebury, I implore you to reconsider this decision. Let the boys play! Dungeon forever!

IAN TROMBULAK '12 IS AN OPINIONS EDITOR FROM MIDDLEBURY, VT

campus policies and information

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Apply Liberally: Zach Drennen What's next for Jim Douglas

Recently retired Governor of Vermont Jim Douglas is not a man to sit idle. First elected to the Vermont legislature the same year he graduated from Middlebury with a degree in Russian studies, he rose rapidly through the state's elected offices despite his unenviable status as a Republican in the nation's bluest state. In 2002 he succeeded Howard Dean as Governor and served four terms in office as one of the most popular state executives in America. Halfway through his final term, he still enjoyed an approval rating of 65 percent. While he may have stepped down as governor this year, his political career is far from over.

Douglas is a classic New England conservative; a member of an endangered species. He seems most comfortable in a suit and tie, drives an aging Dodge Neon and line-dries his clothes in order to save on his electric bill. He's master of the 'retail politics' that dominate in Vermont and New Hampshire; I have not yet met a Vermonter who hasn't shaken his hand at some point and he remembers all of them by name. With his embrace of the stimulus and support for environmental conservation, he is also the type of politician that, in any other state, the Tea Party would have run out of the GOP. In Vermont, however, this allowed him to survive the wave that swept Democrats into power in 2006 and 2008.

As a member of the minority party in a tiny state, Douglas has had to work with his opposition throughout his political career. It is clear when he disagrees with something, but he knows when to respond with a rueful smile or one of his many deadpan jokes. He seems to regard his opponents with a friendly respect, speaking admiringly of Dean's job in office and Senator Patrick Leahy's (D-VT) work in Washington. He refers to the new Democratic governor Peter Shumlin (D-VT) as "Shummy," and had Congressman Peter Welch as a guest speaker in the class he taught this January. The one notable exception to this esteem for his ad-

versaries is his clear distaste for Senator Bernie Sanders, the Socialist Democrat who has become a hero on the left for his opposition to any compromise on the Bush tax cuts. Douglas clearly sees Bernie as too extreme, too much of a firebrand and more of a show pony than a work horse.

All of this leads to the inevitable conclusion that Jim Douglas will attempt to unseat Sanders in 2012. He will deny this when asked, but it is clear that his mind could change if he sees a path to victory. Douglas ran for the Senate against Leahy in 1992, giving the veteran legislator a run for his money. Since then, his profile in the state has increased substantially.

As a first-term Senator, Sanders is considerably more vulnerable than Leahy. His "take-no-prisoners" approach endears him to the liberal wing of his party, but he alienates both moderates and the press. Douglas, the popular governor of the bluest state in the nation, has already demonstrated his ability to win these voters, along with a large share of Democrats. This makes him the only Republican with a shot at winning the seat in 2012. No other candidate could seriously challenge Sand-

ers. With his future career plans not yet laid, the chance to jump back into the arena next year may be too tempting to refuse.

This is bad news for Democrats nationally. They currently hold the Senate with a razor-thin majority and two-thirds of the seats up for reelection in 2012 belong to Democrats. If they lose a seat in Vermont, they will fare far worse in the rest of the nation. Much of their success depends on how President Barack Obama tackles unemployment and the debt; if neither has improved by 2012, Douglas could find himself the member of a large Senate majority. But one thing is certain: Douglas will not be content with an early retirement. Politics is his only hobby.

ZACH DRENNEN '13, 5 IS FROM
CANANDAIGUA, N.Y.

**One thing
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not be content
with an early
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Politics is his
only hobby.**

heardoncampus

"No, big spoon, I don't really know what to do with the bottom arm." There is a Nobel Peace Prize waiting in Norway for whoever figures that one out.

— James Moore '12 on spooning

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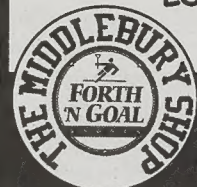
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Midd by MiddEast: Mori Rothman

Tomorrow is Today: Let us not allow the window of Israeli-Palestinian peace to close

The sun of possible peace between the Israeli and Palestinian peoples is setting. The window for the two-state solution — the only solution, I believe, with any chance at bringing about meaningful, sustainable peace in the near future — is closing. Israel's future as a Jewish, democratic homeland has come under grave threat.

People have been saying it for years. In fact, people have been saying "the window is closing" since before the window was even opened. And maybe they were right; maybe the two-state solution was born dead. Maybe the idea that Palestinians and Israelis could sheathe their swords and swallow their pride was an illusion from the beginning.

I have always objected to cynicism. Cynicism is satisfying. Cynicism is easy. Cynicism is injustice's closest companion. For cynicism often leads to passivity. And justice will not be wrought by the passive.

It is thus with great hesitancy that I write: "the window is closing." But I do not write it as a call to give up. To the contrary, I write it as a call to action.

So, why now? What has happened recently that has made me believe that the window truly is closing? Simply put, politics matter.

On the regional political front, the revolutions that are currently taking place in Egypt and throughout the Middle East should certainly come as a reminder that political status quos cannot be sustained indefinitely. Moreover, it should come as a reminder to Israel's leaders that steps towards peace with the Palestinians — and thus towards recognition from most of the Arab world, based on the Arab League's Peace Initiative, proposed in 2003 — would be strategically wise as well as morally commendable.

Egyptian revolution aside — for it is impossible to predict what the results will be — domestic politics in Israel are push-

ing the window closed at an alarming and unprecedented rate.

A number of recent, anti-democratic legislative proposals have made their way into central political discussion over the past year, including this week when the Knesset (Israeli Parliament) drew even closer to approving the establishment of a McCarthyesque inquiry into left wing Israeli human rights and social justice NGOs. In any democratic country, flagrantly undemocratic legislation — such as a governmental inquiry into human rights organizations — would be cause for concern. But in Israel, these laws are not only alarming on a case-by-case basis, but indeed pose a threat to the two-state solution itself. And once the two-state solution is off the table, Israel will not only have to deal with a series of specific anti-democratic legislations, but indeed will very likely cease to be a democracy at all.

Let me explain.

This inquiry is to be targeted against incredibly courageous and professional groups such as 'B'Tselem' and 'Breaking the Silence.' These groups work day in and day out to uphold the best of Israel's tradition of democracy and equality as envisaged by Israel's own Declaration of Independence. They do so by struggling to expose the horrible realities of the Occupation to the broader Israeli public, and thus to build a consensus around the urgent need to end the Occupation. If these groups are investigated and their voices stifled, who will lead the charge for peace and justice? Who will push for compromise and change? Who will ensure that this 43-year Occupation finally comes to an end?

The formula is strikingly simple: without an end to the Occupation, there will be no independent Palestine, and without an independent Palestine, Israel's Occupation of the West Bank will become permanent, and once Israel's Occupation of the West Bank becomes permanent, then Israel will cease to be a democracy, unless it gives all of the Palestinians living in the

West Bank full voting rights in Israel, which would inevitably mean the end of Israel as a Jewish Homeland. The latter situation is so far from any mainstream, moderate Israeli position, let alone the current right-wing government's, and so:

Israeli democracy is in grave danger.

It is time to take action. Significant changes are happening in the region and inside Israel. I am an Israeli citizen, and will vote and campaign fiercely against any politician who proposes anti-democratic policies or opposes peace when I return to Israel, but I am also an American citizen, and live in America today. This piece is thus addressed to the American Jewish community, with the following simple request: speak. Speak loudly. It is your place to challenge, for your challenge comes from a place of love and concern. It is your place to challenge, for your failure to do so could mean the end of our democratic, Jewish homeland in the land of Israel. So challenge this panel of inquiry. Challenge injustice. Challenge the Occupation.

It is well known that this conflict cannot come to an end without dramatic involvement on the part of the United States. Yet President Obama did not say a single word about the conflict in his State of the Union address last week. Tell him not to give up. Tell him to make haste to set forth a bold, viable, creative and detailed US peace initiative. The Middle East is changing. Now is the time for bold action on the part of the United States to do all that it can to ensure that this change is towards peace and justice, and not towards increased repression and violence. If not now, when?

Let us not let this window to close. Let us raise our voices before it is actually too late.

MORI ROTHMAN '11 IS FROM YELLOW SPRINGS, OHIO.

The Awkward BJ: Ben Johnston Febulously Febtastic

They're here. They've come. Amidst a campus of jaded liberal arts zombies, morosely trudging to class while praying for global warming to kick in, they enter the Middlebury community. I am, of course, referring to those little rays of sunshine we call "Febs" (aka Feblets, Febbies, Fmunchkins, etc.).

They are the fleshy balls of boundless enthusiasm ready to start their college experiences and provide fresh blood for our a cappella groups and theatrical productions. Meanwhile, they fill up rooms vacated by upperclassmen who have gone abroad and give the admissions staff something super exciting to tell "prospies" about. Overall, it's a pretty sweet deal for all parties involved. Why, then, do we give them so much crap?

It is pretty impressive, how much guff the brand new Febs have to deal with from their upperclassmen brethren. I think of it as a more endearing form of hazing, where we blame them for silly things while thinking they're absolutely adorable. It's true, the number one response when a Feb walks in is something along the lines of "Awwwwwww it's a Feb! Let's pet it!"

We are then quick to dismiss whatever they are doing as ridiculous Feb behavior, and end with some judgmental remark speculating on how many bowls of granola and cottage cheese they ate this morning. Just the other day I saw two people goofing around in the hallway outside Proctor, and, without any evidence other than the physical (and maybe romantic?) interaction, I decided that they were Febs. While my judgment turned out to be very correct, I still wonder why I or anyone else would feel the need to think such things.

There are several theories. The most straightforward is that Middlebury students can't handle the collective enthusiasm of their new classmates. They leap onto campus with "I Love College" blaring through their iPod headphones, extremely ready to leave their parents and drink beer and dance at cool parties and learn about the Anthropology of Sociologi-

cal Human Ecology Geology. Meanwhile, the rest of campus is going through the five stages of grief, following the realizations that Winter Term is over and that snow just went down their shirt. I can vouch for these people: walking past someone gleefully whistling his SIM audition piece while I am desperately clinging to life sort of makes me want to vomit on his pajamas.

But I think this theory is incomplete, and it definitely doesn't explain the times we condescendingly equate Febs with

They are the fleshy balls of boundless enthusiasm ready to start their college experiences and provide fresh blood for our a cappella groups and theatre productions.

puppies. My theory is that they remind us of ourselves when we first got here or worse: before we got here. Everyone goes through his or her awkward phase, and after it ends (if it ends), we want never to think of it again. I could give plenty of examples from my life, but I feel it is my duty as an older brother to bring your attention to the picture to your right.

No, it is not the elusive face of the mysterious Cousin Itt that you see. The fair, ginger maiden is, in fact, my brother Dan "Darnull" Johnston in the year 2006. His luxurious locks are what happen when you combine a wannabe hippie phase, negligent parenting and daily therapy with Pantene Pro-V.

Luckily, Goldilocks Darnull is a thing of the past, and his

current style is not one that draws questions about his gender. This change came just in time too, as he has just begun his first semester at Middlebury as a new Feb. Darnull has changed a lot since then, and despite spilling milk on the football team at lunch last week, he is a wonderful addition to the campus. He and you other Febs don't deserve all the crap you will inevitably experience from everyone else, not to mention from me right now. We are all just cold, lonely and depressed jerks, and you remind us of the times our proverbial hair was as long as Darnull's. I apologize on behalf of all the buttface upperclassmen for their jealous and/or condescending actions, and I promise we will be over it just in time for you to realize how drafty your windows are.



BEN JOHNSTON '11 IS FROM BEDFORD, MASS.

Op-Ed: David Peduto Egypt Liberated

Yalla ya Misr!

My heart is with the Egyptian people! Smiles, confidence, *thiqa*, reason, passion, righteousness, strength, pride, unbroken honor, respect, unyielding passions that resonate through all the fiber optic cables and all the air waves of the world. And what a world it is! And Egypt the mother of it! *Ya Salaam!* Peace and protest, peaceful protests and a dictator is down and out and the people are up and in; the triumph of humanity.

That is what it all comes down to: humanity. It is a shared sense of identity that transcends all of the messy and unnecessary markers of distinction that lead not so much to individualization as to a separation from the rest of mankind itself. We see individuals acting in an accord with a group, common people doing common things and achieving the absolutely unimaginable.

Perhaps we must alter our imaginations because we can never doubt the ability of a people, of a nation, of a polity, of a population that is made up of the youngest of babes to the oldest of elders to affect change in a way that those somewhere in-between believe to be impossible. It is possible. Anything is possible.

When people are bound by external stereotypes, they will overcome. When people are dismissed as incapable, they will surprise you with their capability. When people are treated like dirt, they will wipe that dirt off of themselves and offer up their clean face once more.

People don't live in the dust, that's for those who have died. We live in an element in between, not quite Heaven and not quite Hell; but what a marvelous place it is. With skylines punctured by skyscrapers, minarets and antennas, all their respective messages to send and all with their audiences to attract. All of them coming together in the name of *thowra*: revolution. Not blood, not spears, not knives and

daggers, but banners and words, faces and smiles, camaraderie and fraternity and sorority in the name of a common humanity are their tools.

Egypt is not lost on us, nor should it be. Tunisia already seems to be somewhere in the background, but nor does it deserve someplace in the shadows. Freedom sweeps all up in its path. It is a call to celebrate and commemorate. It flies above the pain of repression on the wings of doves. It eludes persecution because

you cannot possibly defeat an idea, an ideal as strong as an innate emotion. It permeates all sectors of society and cuts across all classes in all cultures. It gives us something to smile about; it's a feel-good cause because it is a do-good cause. Good things come from it in the same way that light emanates so brightly from the sun. It radiates with all the blessings of He who you believe in and sets itself straight up on the altar of humanity.

It is ours to behold, it is ours to cherish, it is ours to use in any way we please. So long as that freedom does not impinge the freedoms of others, it remains a right that is imbued in every individual, every human being.

For those whose hearts have grown too cold and whose minds have shrunk too small, freedom becomes a fleeting idea. But for those whose hearts are warm and whose minds grow with each passing moment, theirs is the white banner of freedom that we hold on high. I see it, you see, we all see it, and they see it too. Yes, feel that passion, excitement and sensational ideal of freedom and work to secure its everlasting presence in the society you seek to build.

Go forth, *ya hurriyeh*, and free all those whose name they call but whose face they've seen not. Shine bright. Shine strong. Shine on.

DAVID PEDUTO '11 IS FROM
EAST GREENWICH, R.I.

Letter to the Editor: Maddie Kahn Why must we be so politically correct?

This question plagues my mind almost every time I sit down to write an article for *The Campus*. This past week I went to one of *The Campus*' editors with a story. A good story... at least I thought so. The story was interesting and thought provoking; it was a story that had depth and that asked questions. The story I wanted to write was one of hazing — always an interesting topic for the Middlebury student body because of the sheer number of student-athletes on campus.

Many Middlebury students already know that the women's swimming and diving team's season was recently suspended due to "hazing" traditions that became known to coaches and athletic staff. I would rather not get into the specifics of the story, but would instead like to comment on the simple fact that my editor came back to me with a big, fat "No." Apparently, her superiors thought it wouldn't be such a good idea to write about this controversial breaking news. Please remind me, *Middlebury Campus*, what is our role as journalists?

My understanding of the role of journalists is to write the truth — clean and simple. The people of this world and, on a smaller level, the people of this campus, want to hear about what's going on around them and how they are affected. Isn't that a role of the media — to give their constituents and readers the facts? According to www.journalism.org, the purpose of journalism is "to provide citizens with accurate and reliable information they need to function in a free society." My question for *The Campus* is this: are we giving our students the truth by omitting certain facts, by not covering certain controversial issues? I know that, as a College, we have to please a lot of people. We have to be what's called "politically correct." But, why, as a newspaper or information outlet, which is simply supposed to state the facts, must we also try to please,

or in the case of a subject that may not cast the greatest light upon Middlebury, to push certain issues under the rug?

If I asked a random sampling of five people on this campus, I am confident that at least three of them would want to hear about the women's swimming and diving team's suspension. It's not the most glamorous story for Middlebury by any means, but it is news, and therefore it is our job as a newspaper to cover it. We don't always have to be proud of some of the things that happen on our campus. Why should we? Wouldn't this have been a great opportunity to explore the negative impact of hazing, not only on individual athletes or students but an entire team? While it is ideal to always be churning out stories of how wonderful and bright our students are, it's not always true. It's just not the real world! If the truth is what the campus wants — what it prides itself in — then I question

whether the overseers of this publication are doing their job.

I'm only bringing this up because it's not the first time this has happened this year. When I speak about *The Campus*, I'm including myself. I write for *The Campus* and I think it's a wonderful student-run organization. I also think it's always good, however, to question what we're doing and what are the true goals of the publication as well as those of us that write and work on *The Campus*. Political correctness is everywhere in this world. But where is the line drawn? As prospective journalists, we're not trying to praise or hurt anyone — we're simply trying to provide our students and the Middlebury community with accurate information on stories and issues that may affect them now and in the future.

MADDIE KAHN '11 IS FROM ST. LOUIS, MO

Managing Vermont's winter wonderland

The Campus talks to Facilities' snow removal team about the job

By Leah Pickett

Features Editor

The discomfort of trudging through endless snow is tempered only by one important consideration: at least we didn't have to shovel it.

Keeping the paths clear of snow and ice has occupied facilities this winter to a degree that Landscape Supervisor Bob Cameron has not seen in his four years at his job.

"This is the worst I've seen since I've been around," Cameron said. "We normally would do more tree pruning and dead-wooding and stuff like that [during the winter], but we have spent the majority of our time dealing with snow removal [this year]."

Assistant Director of Facilities Services Luther Tenny said in an e-mail that he estimated the school had already spent 30 percent more on snow removal than last year due to the harshness of the winter. The increased cost of this year's maintenance results from the enormous amount of man-powered equipment needed to cope with a Vermont winter. At Middlebury there are 57 people now enlisted in the snow-removal crew and these members hail from every department in facilities, including but not limited to landscape, carpentry, plumbing, and custodial.

"These folks are fantastic, and they do a fantastic job of snow removal," Cameron said. "If this year hasn't proven that to everybody, then it'll never get proven, because this has been a horrific year."

Depending on whether or not an employee is part of a shovel crew, or operates a plow truck, sidewalk tractor, or some of the much larger equipment, they may arrive at Middlebury at 2, 4 or 6 a.m. during or after a snowstorm to begin clearing the way for students and faculty.

"An amazing amount of coordination [is required], not just for snow removal, but for everything," Cameron said. "We watch the weather forecast constantly."

In Vermont, most predicted snowstorms deliver snowfall, so when facilities sees a predicted storm, they plan to arrive at work the next day in the middle of the night. Even if the storm does not materialize, most of the 57 snow removal crew members will show up anyway, just in case.

Although the group has not found itself too overworked this year — even if workers come in at two in the morning, they still only work an eight-hour day, allowing them to go home by 10 a.m. — the manpower required for the clearing has still strained the department.

"We just do what we can," Cameron said. "Sometimes we may not get out as quickly as we used to but we just don't have the manpower."

The pure physicality of the job has also made this winter a particularly exhausting one.

"[The job is] very physical," Cameron said. "That's why I have the utmost respect for these people, especially the shovelers. We're fortunate not to have more injuries than we have had; it's a physical challenge."

Facilities has worked to improve the sidewalks this year by experimenting with the use of salt instead of sand. After the administration asked facilities to recommend a better way to clear paths last year, facilities did some research and ended up recommending something called "magic salt." Magic salt is like regular salt, but has been sprayed with another product called Ice Ban, which is a liquid made from beer wasteproducts. Unlike regular salt, which breaks the bonds between the pavement and condensation, the Ice Ban helps magic salt prevent the bond between the ice and the sidewalks from forming in the first place. This magic salt has allowed facilities to cut the amount of salt they would have had to use this winter by a third. But there are drawbacks:

"Salt is better than sand but isn't really good for the environment, especially when I consider my trees," said Landscape Horticulturist Tim Parsons. "There is a real cost to trees with way excessive salt use."

Parsons gave the example of the University of Vermont campus, where there are large patches of bare ground on each side of the pathways because of years of heavy salt use. Middlebury facilities, which has always used sand and thus has been able to maintain healthier grass, hopes that the reduced quantity of magic salt required will offset the negative effects of using the salt.

The use of salt also has another important impact on facilities: it has reduced the need for manpower and machinery. Because sand does not stick in one place, it has to be reapplied constantly. With salt, fewer applications are necessary.

"We're not using as much equipment time as we have been, which means less noise, less fumes, less carbon dioxide," Parsons said.

Students have already had the opportunity to enjoy increasingly clear paths this winter, and facilities hopes salt will continue to be a mainstay in the future. Ultimately, it is the ability to coordinate and work together that has allowed the department to get through the extreme weather this year;

"We're a pretty close-knit group," Cameron said. "Things run pretty smoothly."

SNOW DAY

THE NIGHT BEFORE: SEEING THAT A SNOWSTORM IS PREDICTED FOR THE NEXT DAY, BOB CAMERON, LANDSCAPE SUPERVISOR, WILL WRITE ON THE BOARDS OF ALL THE DIFFERENT SHOPS IN FACILITIES TIMES THAT DIFFERENT CREWS SHOULD ARRIVE THE NEXT MORNING



2:00-3:00 a.m.

OPERATORS OF THE DUMP TRUCK, BUCKET LOADER, AND BACKHOE (ALL THE BIGGEST EQUIPMENT) ARRIVE AND START CLEARING OUT THE PARKING LOTS SO THAT THE NEXT CREW CAN OPERATE EFFECTIVELY.



4:00 a.m.

PLOW TRUCKS AND SIDEWALK TRACTORS ARRIVE. THE PLOW TRUCKS NOW HELP OUT THE DUMP TRUCKS AND BACKHOES IN COVERING TEN DIFFERENT PLOW ROUTES. THERE IS ONE OPERATOR AND ONE ALTERNATE ASSIGNED TO EACH ROUTE.



6:00 a.m.

SHOVEL CREWS CONTINUE CLEARING THE SIDEWALKS. FOR SIDEWALK WORK, THE SNOW REMOVAL TEAM IS DIVIDED INTO TEN CREWS OF ABOUT FOUR PEOPLE EACH.

THROUGHOUT THE DAY: CONTINUE PLOWING IF SNOWSTORM CONTINUES, GO BACK AND SALT AFTERWARDS (SALTING AND SNOW REMOVAL ARE DIFFICULT TO DO AT THE SAMETIME)

NOTE: IF THE SNOWSTORM IS A SURPRISE, CAMERON HAS A LIST OF THE HOME AND CELL PHONE NUMBERS OF ALL 57 CREW MEMBERS, AND HE WILL MAKE SURE ALL OF THEM ARE CALLED AND ARRIVE AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE.



Photos by Eric Hemphill

Environmental Advocacy

Students travel to Montpelier to put their environmental seminar learning to practical use and advocate policy changes.

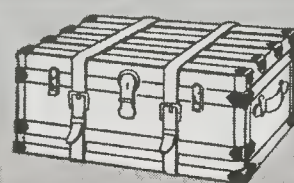
pgs. 12-13



Staff Spotlight

Professor of Economics Leticia Arroyo Abad talks about her career, education, and why she loves teaching at Middlebury.

pg. 14



Trunk of Treasures

The new student-run campus thrift store had a successful opening weekend and appears ready to see business boom.

pg. 15

Inquiry and Action

SENIOR SEMINAR IN ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE TACKLES LOCAL ECOLOGICAL ISSUES

By Michelle Smoler

Faculty and students constantly advocate breaking the so-called "Middlebury bubble" and exploring life outside the confines of the Middlebury College campus. The Environmental Studies Senior Seminar class (ES0401) is a course that every fall requires seniors in the Environmental Studies (ES) major not only study an issue of both global and local importance, but also to apply their respective skills to address the issue and foster real change. This past fall, the ES0401 class chose to address the problem of arsenic contamination in Vermont's private water wells. Their efforts culminated in a presentation before the Vermont State Senate in Montpelier on Wednesday, Feb. 9, where testified in favor of a bill that would establish government regulation of private drinking water wells to ensure that the Vermont residents that use them are getting water that is up to EPA standards.

Arsenic can have negative health effects when ingested, but it is naturally derived from Vermont's bedrock and it can occur in high levels in the soil and in residents' water wells. Professor of Geology Peter Ryan, instructor for the ES0401 class, has been collaborating with the Vermont Geological Survey since 2002 on projects designed deduce why there are such high levels of arsenic in Vermont wells. For years he has been asking the questions: "What do people in this area know? Do they know about health department recommendations [for arsenic levels]?"

"I didn't know when we moved to Vermont to test our water ... I talked to colleagues, Middlebury college professors who didn't know anything about these recommendations that you should test because there could be uranium or arsenic in your well," said Ryan. "Think about environmental justice: if you live in Burlington or you live in Middlebury your water is tested regularly for everything. So you turn on the tap at college and you can be pretty assured that its not exceeding EPA safety requirements. If you live in Burlington, if you live in the city of Rutland too. But 40 percent of Vermonters drink from their own private wells."

When it came time to design the class project, Ryan saw the course as an excellent opportunity to pursue this issue.

The planning process began months before the class actually started when Ryan and Diane Munroe, coordinator for community based environmental studies, began lining up community partners. Jon Kim, Laurence Becker and Marjorie Gail of the Vermont Geological Survey, Joanne Calvi of the Department of Health and Vermont State Senator Virginia Lyons provided the community support necessary to address local issues. They provided a framework within which the class could as they collected and analyzed data and extrapolated on potential solutions to the arsenic problem. By presenting the class with key questions that needed to be answered, the students could move forward with direction. The students were responsible for completing the majority of the work, totaling hundreds of hours according to Ryan, and community partners are now using their reserach directly in order to effect change in Vermont.

The most tangible change after this past year's ES0401 is the creation of a practical bill that is primed

to move from committee to the Senate floor. In 2003, Senator Lyons proposed a bill, S.110, calling for the establishment of stringent testing requirements for private wells of Vermont residents. According to the students' final report, "S.110 was not enacted into law due to concerns around cost, information disclosure, barriers to property transfers, and burden of responsibility." However, while the policy the students proposed maintains characteristics of S.110, it has two added components. First, the class's policy proposals are supported by extensive scientific and cost research that was not available to Lyons in 2003.

"These students are grounded, twhey're not coming up with things that are fiscally impossible to do. All the way through it they were saying 'Is this something feasible?' I think everything the students came up with is very practical," said Ryan.

The students also approached the issue from a human-interest perspective, using the story of Bjorn Coburn, a five-year-old boy who suffered health problems and developmental impairment as a result of arsenic poisoning from two years ago.

"You can look at maps and charts but as soon as you have a mother and a little boy — that's the human side of the story," said Ryan.

The mother, Laurel Coburn, and Bjorn, spoke with the class at their presentation at Montpelier as well as supported them in their class efforts. Their relationship with the class not only brought to light the real-world importance of this bill to the state senators, but also empowered the students themselves.

"[I've realized] this is not just a class exercise in thinking outside of the box, it's a class exercise in thinking outside of the box because people's lives are at stake and because public health is an actual issue," said Sarah Simonds '11. "Whatever I do to analyze this will inform their decisions to make better health choices and that kind of influence and significance in a project is kind of startling."

Preparing ES students for the work they will be doing in the future is a central objective behind this course. The ES senior seminar was established in 1988, 23 years after the creation of the ES major by Professor of Environmental and Biosphere Studies Stephen Trombulak. He hoped to create a collaborative and real world "capstone course" for ES students.

"My inspiration [for the course] was the recognition that the students majoring in ES would benefit from having a senior capstone course that (a) was interdisciplinary, (b) collaborative and (c) focused on the kinds of applications that resembled the types of research projects they would likely engage in after graduation," said Trombulak.

The course has evolved to exceed Trombulak's original hopes and expectations, as the kind of work these students do more than resembles real-world research projects. The first ES0401 class in '88 was a key player in the creation of Middlebury's own Recycling Center and later classes did work that, for example, resulted in changes to ACTR routes and schedules, formed a basis for creating a mosquito control district near Lake Dunmore and addressed fundamental environmental issues with Middlebury's Biomass Plant.

The interdisciplinary and collaborative aspects of this course are emphasized through the bringing together of students specializing in a myriad focus areas to use their unique perspectives to successfully address an issue. It is clear how the combination of people is really essential to achieving class goals.

"One of the students was in literary or creative arts and was involved in creating a prototype pamphlet, which is really well written. The graphics are great — you look at it and it's aesthetically pleasing. I [could] imagine it being done by an engineer," said Ryan. "Writing and designing the survey gets into the social aspects the human psychology. [In addition] the policy group had some environmental policy people and some econ people: they know where to find information on environmental econ and they know how to process the information — stuff that I couldn't even begin to do."

Some students chose their focus for its easily applicable purpose in the world of environmental science, such as conservation biology or environmental policy, and were able to employ knowledge from their focus in the service-learning project.

"Economics is a powerful tool to help understand and solve environmental problems, but in the end markets work best when guided by strong public policy," wrote Pier Lafarge '10.5, an ES0401 student, in an e-mail. "Policy is about synthesizing information, and our class worked really well together to do just that."

Other students, such as Simonds, who specialized in architecture, found their focus area to be relatively immaterial to the work they were asked to do.

"I think one thing we struggle with is how to design a project that will generate interest and tap the different skills that are at the table because we have many different foci in the major. So we try to be cognizant of that in the project design," said Munroe, who works closely every year with ES0401 students as advisor and unofficial teacher.

The students agreed that the as a whole has provided them with a sense of completion to their career as Middlebury College Environmental Studies majors.

"I think [the ES0401 class] has been the pinnacle of my time here at Middlebury — that last semester — and its because it was a chance to make a difference and this class in particular made a difference," said Simonds. "Legislation and actual change in Vermont is coming out of what we did last fall and that's something maybe no other classes at Middlebury can say for themselves."

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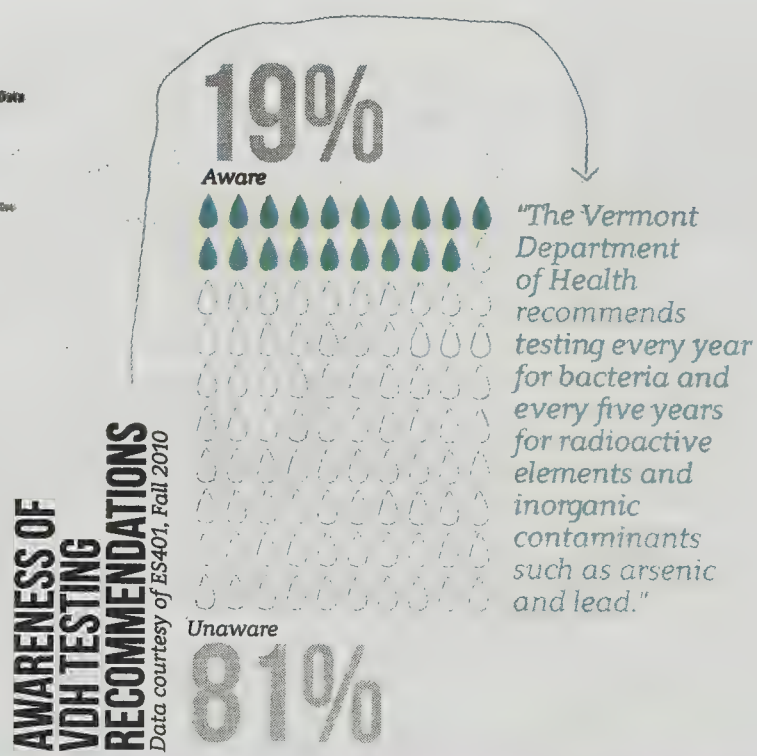
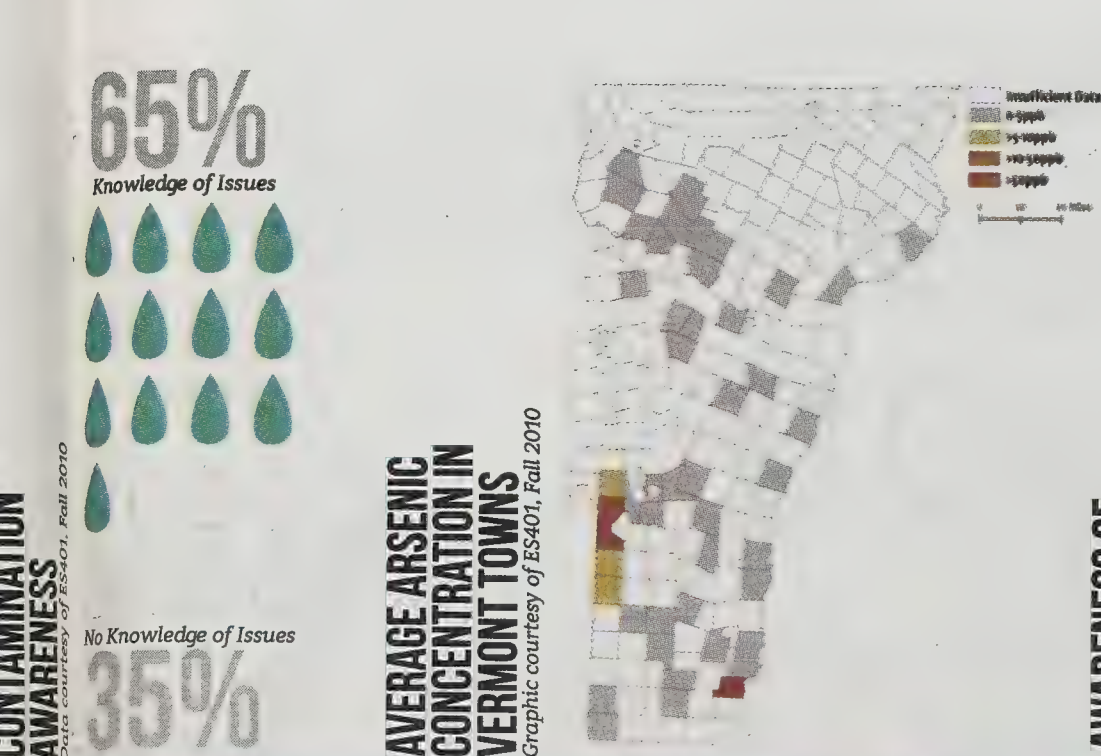
-SARAH SIMONDS '11

GROUNDWATER
CONTAMINATION
AWARENESS



ENVIRONMENTAL
AREAS OF

- Conservation E
- Environmental
- Environmental
- Environmental
- Environmental
- Geography
- Human Ecology
- Architecture and
- Creative Arts
- Environmental
- Environmental
- Literature
- Religion, Philo
- Environment



ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE EAS OF FOCUS

Conservation Biology
Environmental Chemistry
Environmental Geology
Environmental Economics
Environmental Policy
Geography
Human Ecology
Architecture and the Environment
Creative Arts
Environmental History
Environmental Nonfiction
Literature
Religion, Philosophy and the Environment

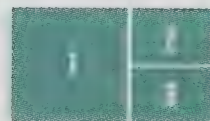
ES 401

SELECTED PROJECTS

- Arsenic Contamination in Vermont's Private Wells *Fall 2010*
- Biomass Procurement at Middlebury College: Assessments and Recommendations *Fall 2009*
- Splitting the Tri-Town Route: The Feasibility of Expanding the ACTR Tri-Town Shuttle Bus *Spring 2008*
- Burn Wood Good: Fostering Pollution Accountability for Outdoor Wood Boilers *Spring 2007*
- Mosquito Control in Vermont: Information for Citizens and Controllers; Mosquito Control Website *Spring 2006*
- Moving Towards Zero Waste in Addison County *Fall 2006*

As
33
74.92
ARSENIC

- Odorless and colorless
- Exposure linked to bladder, lung, and skin cancer
- Other sources of Arsenic exposure: burning of fossil fuels and pressure treated wood
- 10 parts per billion: federal standard for arsenic in drinking water



1. Professor of Geology Peter Ryan at a well with students and the Coburn family.
Photo courtesy of ES0401, Fall 2010

2. ES0401 students field questions from senators. From left: Pier LaFarge '10.5, Ashley Cheung '11, Nicole Vaughan '11 and Rachel Pentecost '11.

3. Michaela O'Connor '11, Sarah Simonds '11 and Pier LaFarge '10.5 at the Vermont State House.
Photo courtesy of Senior Editor of Public Affairs Stephen Diehl



We live in a world often starved for touch. There are occasions that are generally acceptable: a hug between friends (or a kiss, depending), a handshake between acquaintances. And then there are the more specialized times when we make contact — in football tackles, rugby scrums, bar fights, in dance or theatre classes. By and large, almost always it's only lovers and intimate friends who get to touch each other as much as they want — and for better or for worse, it's almost always in the bedroom, and either by sex or by cuddling. This, though, is about cuddling.

So what's the difference between the two? While there's overlap, naturally, sex usually focuses on the building of pleasure; cuddling, on the building of intimacy. This intimacy, by the way, means that it is possible to sleep with a close friend non-sexually — and also why you run the risk of angering your significant other if you do. The words that are exchanged while laying in someone else's arms carry with them the trust that they are meant for only one pair of ears. Ever wonder why "pillow talk" is one of the deadlier weapons in a spy's arsenal? This is why.

Like sex, the intimacy of sleeping together is both terrifying and seductive — like sex, requesting to hold or be held by someone should be a question, not assumed. After all, people carry with them their own ideas of what sex means — it is possible to be perfectly fine with having sex with strangers, and uncomfortable in sharing your bed with them.

And especially these beds. Anyone who's ever tried to fit two (or more) people on a bed in college knows this problem. The lovechild of a cot and the kind of hard wooden pallet normally reserved for *Oliver Twist*, the mattress turns every attempt at being sociable into a surprise anatomy exam. What do you do with two pairs of arms and legs in a space designed for one? How in God's name do you get comfortable enough to sleep? Where did the blankets go?

Obviously, body type either helps or compounds these problems, as do a number of other factors: snoring, sweat, drool, roommates, contagious disease, what sleeping position you prefer and whether or not you want to open a window. Those who have space, time, money and luck can invest in a queen- or king-sized mattress — but frankly, if you have that why have you even read this far?

Perhaps for this: spooning.

"No, big spoon, I don't really know what to do with the bottom arm."

There is a Nobel Peace Prize waiting in Norway for whoever figures that one out. Under the neck? Parallel to the body? Over the head, Superman-style? Whatever works for you.

Know, though, that even though this article opened illustrating the drought of contact, that you don't have to sleep clinging together like magnets, molecular bonds or campers in Vermont. The way you cuddle each other doesn't have to be the way you sleep — so don't take it personal if someone chooses to cuddle, but not spend the night. Classes are long and twin extra-longs are tiny and seriously, sleep? It is a damn good, painfully rare commodity.

Also, as previously mentioned, the fact that a sex columnist is discussing cuddling does not mean that you have to be having sex to be cuddling, or vice-versa. That said, the "just-friends" cuddle presents its own unique thorny issues, similar in many respects to having a friend with benefits. Physical and emotional intimacy combined can run combustion risks, especially if one party has a compatible sexuality. Complicating that, if one or the other party is in a relationship, engaging in emotional infidelity is a risk — do ask permission, in other words, of your significant other before you do. To sleep with someone doesn't mean what it used to, in the 18th century. Maybe nowadays it means more.

James Moore '12 is from Los Angeles, Calif.

staffspotlight

By Kelsi Morgan

STAFF WRITER

Growing up in Buenos Aires, Argentina, Assistant Professor of Economics Leticia Arroyo Abad experienced the vibrant culture of a city with 2,891,082 inhabitants.

Currently, she is enjoying a quieter environment as a professor in the Economics department at Middlebury.

It was the location of her upbringing, though, which first attracted Arroyo Abad to economics.

"Argentina is famous for defaulting on its debt almost every other year," she said. "Growing up, there was high inflation. Argentina did not have coins as a part of its currency. When I traveled as a child, I realized that there were coins elsewhere. That caught my attention. It was this realization that made me start thinking about economics."

Arroyo Abad pursued a degree in economics from Argentine Catholic University and, after graduating, chose to pursue a Ph.D in economics, focusing on Latin America.

First, though, she earned a degree from the University of Kansas in Latin American Studies.

"I chose to study Latin America before seeking my Ph.D because, at my university, there was really no such thing as the liberal arts," Arroyo Abad said. "I realized that I knew a lot about economics, but I didn't know enough about Latin America as a whole. I wanted to diversify my knowledge before beginning my Ph.D."

After finishing her work at the University of Kansas, Arroyo Abad moved to California to work on her Ph.D at the University of California, at Davis (UC-Davis). There, she specialized in Latin American Economic History.

While working on her Ph.D, Arroyo Abad traveled extensively around Latin America to research economic conditions.

"Traveling opens your mind," she said. "When I left Argentina to come to the United States, I learned so much. In an academic sense, I learned about the US economy. I could compare the economy of the US to the economy of Argentina. The more places I visited, the more comparisons I could make. Through traveling in Latin America I learned to see divergent economic outcomes between countries with similar colonial beginnings."

Upon graduating from UC-Davis in 2009, Arroyo Abad started teaching at Middlebury.

"I feel so lucky to have ended up here," Arroyo Abad said. "I knew that I wanted to teach smart students, and the environment here is absolutely beautiful. My colleagues here are wonderful. Also, being a professor here allows me to conduct serious research, which is something I've always wanted to do."

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Leticia Arroyo Abad

Her favorite part of teaching?

"Definitely not grading," she said. "In seriousness though, I do really enjoy the moment

when,

as

I'm explaining a

difficult concept, I see the students begin to understand. The light bulbs in their heads go off."

"I also like getting to know my students," she continued. "Students at this school are very inquisitive, and they keep me on my toes. That's something that's different between here and UC-Davis. Here, students take an active part in their learning. They're smart and they're driven. They won't accept mediocre answers."

While she enjoys teaching each of her classes, Political Economy of Development, which she taught over Winter Term with Assistant Professor of Political Science Jessica Teets, has been her favorite thus far.

"It was a great experience," Arroyo Abad said. "We will hopefully teach it again next spring."

Her ideal course to teach, however, would be economic development of Latin America.

"I love economic history, and I hope to teach a course on it this fall," she said.

As for a philosophy of teaching, Arroyo Abad thinks that developing one is a continual process.

"I'm constantly developing my teaching philosophy," she said. "I want to challenge my students, and I want them to remember my course as something that made them think. Students should have to think outside of the box. I also want to get to know my students. I don't just want to lecture at them. I think that that interaction is very important."

Teaching is, for Arroyo Abad, a deeply rewarding experience.

"I wanted to teach because I want to make a difference. Here at Middlebury, I know I can contribute to this community," she said. "Because I am both a minority and a woman, I feel that I have a different perspective from many people here."

It is because of this that Arroyo Abad wants to work more closely with minority students on campus.

"I want to make more of a difference beyond the classroom. I'd love to see the Middlebury campus become more diverse."

And as for her future, Arroyo Abad sees a continuation of the present.

"I want to be a professor forever," she said. "I think that sometimes students forget that we professors are just human. We are doing this because we love it. We want to eliminate ignorance in our students. We're passionate about creating individuals who are passionate about our subjects."

She continued, "I've tried other jobs in the past, and there's nothing better than this. I love teaching and I love researching. This is absolutely where I want to be."

Photo by Daisy Zhou

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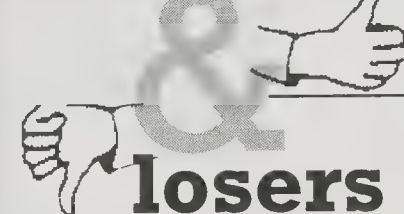
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winners



losers

Valentine's Day
For those struck by Cupid's arrow, a truly magical time

Valentine's Day
... unless you're dateless

Fast Food Nation
Always impressive when we attract the big names

CROWDS
10-person gym lines? Shoulder-to-shoulder meals? This is mayhem!

The Dating Game
A hilarious twist on the traditional show

Workload
Teachers are back with a vengeance

Campus thrift store proves a success

By Maddie Kahn
STAFF WRITER

The clock strikes five on a Friday afternoon and already there is a line through the three floors of Adirondack house. The door opens every few moments to let another anxious student in, grunge t-shirt in hand. Excited chatter travels down from floor to floor; faint sounds of coins jangling fill the air.

A new student-run thrift shop, known as the Trunk, made its debut on campus on Feb. 11. No need to trek to Neat Repeats anymore. Thanks to Janet Rodriguez '10, Isabel Howard '11.5, Amy Rapp '11 and Corinne Beaupard '11.5, Middlebury College now has its own collection of tradable treasures. Open on Fridays from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., the Trunk is located in the third floor of the Adirondack house. It houses all kinds of goodies, from sequin dresses to eclectic wool sweaters.

"We want people to be able to come in and find stuff before they go out," Howard said.

Not only are the prices low, but in the spirit of environmentalism, most of the items sold at the Trunk have been collected from Middlebury's own recycling center.

Four friends spent the last few weeks of May 2010 trying to think of the perfect name for a thrift store. It was all just an idea until "the Trunk" came along. Then they knew they had to put this name into action.

The concept of a thrift shop had been ruminating for some time. Two years ago, Howard and Rodriguez took a course called Writing for Social Change. Howard's final project for the class focused on a potential college thrift shop, but she never thought it would materialize into something real until there was a name; the Trunk fit just right.

The four girls entered fall semester with an action plan. They applied to all kinds of grants, met once a week to iron out the details, spoke to local thrift shops in town for advice and so made their dream into a reality.



Howard (left) and Rodriguez (right) at the center of their new business.

Photo courtesy of Madison Kahn '10.5

ality. After receiving a grant from the Environmental Council as well as funds from Atwater and Brainard Commons, the Trunk gradually grew into something more than a name. The Center for Campus Activities and Leadership (CCAL) suggested the Adirondack attic as a starter space and the girls "fell in love."

"It was more than we could've ever imagined," said Rodriguez. "We were expecting a blank white room, but instead got this great little nook with character."

The room is not the only thing with character — the clothing comes well equipped with it too. Gathered from the Recycling Center, the clothes and trinkets all have that special Middlebury flair — not only the eccentric bit, but also environmental chic.

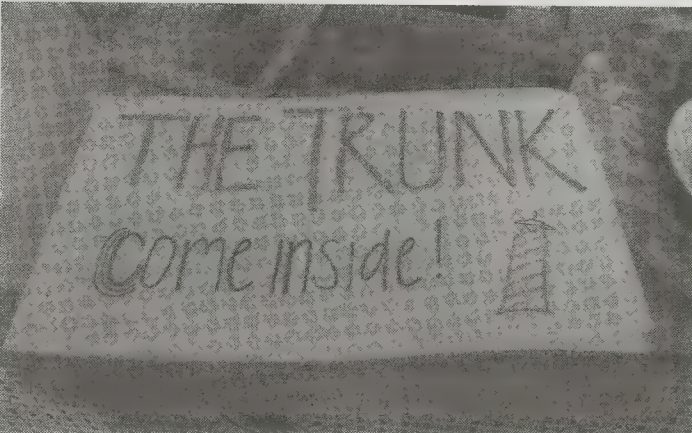


Photo courtesy of Maddie Kahn '10.5

"People have no idea how much is thrown out on this campus," Howard said.

The Trunk provides a venue for people to dispose of their so-called junk in a more environmentally friendly way. As we all know, one man's junk is another man's treasure. The trunk makes this mantra a reality.

"The issues of the environment are relevant to everyone but they're not targeted," said Rodriguez. "There is a large number of people on this campus that aren't actively thinking about the environment, but can still be influential and the thrift store is the perfect outlet for them."

The Trunk is still very much in the works. The founders would like to make the store a buy-trade-sell operation. They are currently trying out a barter system, hoping that people will bring items to trade for other things. The items that are not used in the barter system are all priced below five dollars and most can even be paid with change. The founders of The Trunk are also hoping people will choose to donate their things instead of throwing them away.

"The idea is to keep it really cheap because we're not looking to make a profit," said Howard.

Though the Trunk is still very new, there has already been talk of expansion. Within the first minutes of its opening, the room was packed and there was barely enough elbow room to squeeze past the racks of clothes. Ten minutes in and tensions were already rising over certain items; they were luckily resolved with a fair game of rock-paper-scissors. There has been talk of opening a second outdoor venue on the Proctor terrace when the weather gets warmer, and the Trunk will eventually move to a larger indoor space following ADK attic's impending closure.

From the name to the clothes, the founders of the Trunk appear to have hit on success. The sheer number of people that showed up in the first few minutes shows that The Trunk will be around for a while.

"Everyone we talk to is excited," said Howard. "People want to give us stuff. People want to buy stuff. We just hope everyone who wants to contribute can."

DR. WINO



Wine of the Week: Saint M. Riesling Pfalz, Germany

Last Sunday night, a glass of Saint M. Riesling from Pfalz, Germany transformed dinner in an airport into a lavish dining experience. After spending three days at an interview in Providence, R.I. and then being stranded at the Philadelphia airport for over nine hours, I needed a drink. Flying back to Burlington, Vt. can be a complicated process and often requires Benadryl or libations, although, not in combination. I wasn't looking for cranberry juice mixed with cheap vodka found at your local terminal gate; I wanted a real dinner with a well-paired wine. Luckily, Legal Seafood was sitting amongst the overpriced Hudson News and Au Bon Pain. As an educated graduate of the Middlebury College Winter Term Workshop Food and Wine Pairing, I carefully chose a wine that would accentuate the delicate seafood flavors of my dinner. One of the best pairings with grilled scallops seemed to be the slightly dry Riesling from Pfalz, Germany.

Pfalz, also known as the Palatinate region of Germany, is known for growing and producing some of the best-known Rieslings. A native to Germany, this grape varietal is recognized by wine connoisseurs to be as popular as Chardonnay or Sauvignon Blanc.

The vibrant fruity nose of this wine is made more complex with slightest hint of a beach ball's aroma. A crisp and complex medley of apple and citrus makes up the body of this Riesling and its dry finish invokes flavors of smoked bacon.

Although no booze is incredibly affordable when trapped in an airport, this sweet yet dry German Riesling is a value-wine priced at just between \$11 and \$13 a bottle depending on the vintage. Perhaps next time you are stuck in an airport, or you are looking for an inventive way of seducing your Proctor crush, purchase a glass or a bottle of Saint M. Riesling from Pfalz or another dry German Riesling. Although it may be a challenge to step away from Chardonnay, you might be pleasantly surprised, and find that not all white wine is just "white wine."

E-mail campus@middlebury.edu with what you want Dr. Wino to cover in the next column. Ever wonder why it matters where wines come from? Want to know what type of wine goes well with Italian food? Want an academic response to the question, "What's the stigma against White Zinfandel?" Let us know!

Food for Thought Culinary school grad Kate Strangfeld '12 talks about the Taco Bell meat issue

Over February break, a controversial lawsuit was brought against Taco Bell. California citizen Amanda Obney, along with a law firm in Alabama, claim that only 35 percent of Taco Bell's ground beef is not actually beef, so Taco Bell should not call their beef filling "beef." Other ingredients were typical additives and hard-to-pronounce-names such as autolyzed yeast extract, maltodextrin and the worst: anti-dusting agent. While some may debate the place of stabilizers and chemicals in our food, I confidently believe that nobody wants "anti-dusting agent" in what they're eating. Now, if you type into Google: "Taco Bell meat," or anything of the like, you'll find thousands of news results about the lawsuit. One thing that I noticed is that the majority of these websites and sources are questionable. It's very unsure as to how legitimate this claim is. But whether it's true or not, it brings up many questions about

fast food and the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) beef standards and has gotten a lot of attention.

In an attempt to quickly quiet this unwanted attention, Taco Bell has vigorously denied that these claims are true. They boldly stated, "the lawsuit is bogus and filled with completely inaccurate facts" and claimed that "our seasoned beef recipe contains 88 percent [...] beef and 12 percent seasonings, spices, water and other ingredients that provide taste, texture and moisture."

Now, I'm not going to immediately determine their statement to be false (although I would be willing to bet that it's probably fudged a bit). However, I do have a number of problems with this claim. First, why would you publicly give a specific percentage (88 percent) that is WAY higher than the USDA standard (45 percent)? I find it hard to believe that Taco Bell's meat filling is almost double what the legal standard is,

as the more meat the filling contains, the more expensive it is to make. Second, I find it irksome that Taco Bell is claiming that the majority of ingredients are seasonings, spices, water and other ingredients that anyone could find in their home, and furthermore, that the purpose for these ingredients is only for "taste, texture and moisture." Like any fast food restaurant, Taco Bell clearly puts in ingredients and stabilizers to make their food last longer, ship better and look fresh. I also highly doubt you can find silicon dioxide, caramel color, autolyzed yeast extract and maltodextrin in your kitchen cabinets at home.

So what will happen? Personally, I believe that Taco Bell is going to win the lawsuit, not necessarily because their beef filling is (or was) actually 88 percent beef, but because they have more money, resources and power than their attackers. They've already spent vast amounts of money on full-page print ads in big newspa-

pers like the *Wall Street Journal* and *New York Times*. In addition, it appears that there may be a number of particular problems and details that may hurt the prosecution. Lastly, I'm certain that Taco Bell will quickly change and make sure their beef filling meets the standards if it didn't before.

Honestly, it's hard to know what's true or not. While I am by no means rooting for Taco Bell, I think it's important not to jump to any conclusions. Fast food restaurants are an increasingly easy target to blame for our food problems and the media quickly jumped on the case for its shocking qualities. Ultimately, I think the real surprise in this story is that the USDA standard for percentage of beef in beef filling is 40 percent. That's definitely a fact. I understand that everyone puts in seasonings and other ingredients, but less than half of the filling is meat? Wow.

Seeking Men

Linguist looking to learn the elusive language of love. [will jo bi main]? 3461

I'm a man looking for a man with hair on his chest who can potentially bench press me. I'm tired of boys. I'm tired of men. I'm ready for bears. I have honey. 3321

Looking for someone who would be willing to go on a 20-mile walk for no reason at all. 4234

This spunky cotton-headed ninnymuggins is looking for a fellow ELF enthusiast to share her Monday with. 4132

Enthusiastic female with bionic hips ready to get down with an attractive man that has three legs. If you catch my drift. ;) 4531

Seeking an endearingly dreamy early riser younger than my dad, has good dental hygiene, likes Toy Story and Shakespeare, and doesn't mind climbing stairs. 3237

Looking for the cutest bear at Midd — golden hair a must and must be able to Team Shower occasionally. 1010

Give this jaded junior a FRESHER look at Midd men. 3890

Looking for a short, social frisbee boy who's dirty at pong and likes to keep it real. 4658

Genderqueer seeking crip theorist who delights in ableist language. Love is blind — paralyze me with yours! 4118

Tall audacious blonde wants mountain man or muscled jock to sweep her away. I enjoy hot dancing, yoga, and playing guitar. Wit and confidence a must. 2933

I'm sorry I'm such a babel! (And by that, I mean I'm sorry I'm NOT sorry.) 3754

I can make a themed Jell-O shot for every holiday of the year — placement of the whipped cream is up to you. How's that for an eligible bachelorette? 3982

Persian rug in Abernethy room is at the top of my bucketlist. You could get on top of this. 3181

Seeking Women

Me: Had a yellow jumpsuit on and gave you my business card. You: Really cute. Us: Should connect. 3805

Seeking Winona Ryder lookalike to reenact touching scenes from Edward Scissorhands with me. 3598

I got the Hebrew-jeebies. Gentile male seeking Jewish female. (1) I like bagels and (2) the Beastie Boys, (3) Old Testament, best Testament! (4) I'm circumcised. 3068

Washed up senior seeking Kaitlynn Saldanha for lifelong companionship. 2622

I'm a feb and I have my eye on a special feb leader, your smile and your performance in the talent show stay on my mind like febs stay on proctor. Be mine. 3792

I'll please till you're appeased. 2065

Charming Alabaman looking for a gal with a southern twang who knows how to ROLL TIDE. 3919

Hoping to get connected with someone whose knack for ceramics matches my own. Future girl friend should have these hobbies down pat! (read words 3,5,12,16,22) 2948

A slick dude with a tough attitude seeks a woman to warm up these cold Milliken showers. ;) 2462

Classy, nature-loving Renaissance man seeks non-nitwit, aggravating, attractive female who knows how to dance, laugh, and waste time. 3721

Man with a mustache seeking a woman without a mustache. I will teach you how to, teach you how to, teach you how to... 4370

Tall blonde sailor looking for lady sailor to roll tack with. I've dunmore sailing than most—I'm quite the salty dog, you might say. Let's rock the boat! 3068

Ever wanted to spend the night on the roof of Bi-Hall? Find yourself smiling for no reason? Have two X chromosomes? I've got an X and a Y. 2949

Antiques Roadshow enthusiast seeks relic-minded girl to hunt for bargains and swap collections with. 4116

Scholar-athlete, brolic crew member, American of TRUE African descent. Great at massage, thumbs like a god. Looking for someone to do the Tango of life with. 2737

Passionate skier looking for a companion for both on and off the slopes. 2271

Looking for a kindly, genteel wench who is willing to work late nights and weekends. Must be prone (or supine) to go the extra mile. 4442

Damsel in distress? Look no further than this message from your knight in shining armor. I'll bring you wine and the stars to prove that chivalry isn't dead. 4584

To the women's soccer team: you're lovelier than lacrosse, finer than field hockey and sexier than softball. I have a crush on every single one of you. No joke. 3068

Cute boy with great eyes and smile seeking girl. I'm not great at talking to girls but I promise to blink my eyes like that adorable cat from Shrek. 2631

STOP CUDDLING YOUR STUFFED ANIMALS. Join this wild-eyed 11.5 in the glow of candlelight to discuss Foucault, Harvey, Hitchens. If you can hold a conversation, you might get to feel my athletic frame as we dance to Juan Luis Guerra. YOU: down-to-earth aspiring anarchist/acrobat/harpist who likes dates more than a Phoenix dactylifera, for holding hands while ice skating, Easter-Bunny eating contests, and TLC. Appreciation of 2pac/Dylan/Sublime a plus. Tweepers/virgins/golfers a minus. 2103

Science major looking for female with excellent genetic material. Good bone structure and height a plus. Must be OK with Darwin paraphernalia. 3087

Looking for a strong and silent D1 skier to show you around the Bowl? This dark haired beauty has the flow of a laxer and the grace of a unicorn. 3771

Roses are red. Gingers are too. Call if Dr. Ben is the prescription for you. 3253

Other

Erudite English major seeks willing muse. You provide the inspiration. I'll provide the Franzia. 2913

Curious couple seeking adventurous third (or fourth...or fifth...or...) for wild bedroom romps and contact improv. Send us your safe word and buy something black and lacy. 3836 & 4294

Ever wonder what you're going to do with all the money your parents have made? Do you worry that your future villa on the Mediterranean will be too spacious for just one person? This future public interest lawyer seeks someone — anyone — to pick up the tab on his college debts. It's not gold digging — just promissory note digging. (abroad in Berlin)

Evil Genius seeks minion to sacrifice life in world domination attempt. Must wear leather jumpsuit. Messy death inevitable — laser deathray provided. No freaks. 3304

We really, really love sausage. That might sound like innuendo, but we swear, we just want to smoke some spicy meat. 3786 & 4304

Single-celled organisms wanted for late-night company in Bi-hall. We'll see if eukaryota (you-carry-out-a) my heart. 4195

Why you Stalin? Start Russian and ask me out! That's an executive order. Old Chapel

You broke my heart when you stole my dishes... Dining Services

Staff Personals

Love the outdoors? Enjoy baked goods? Always up for mischief? Come hang out — these things are my favorites, too. Great times await! 2215

Manage your time well and you might just get to spend some with me. I like fireside chats and a nice set of wheels. 2860

Looking for a dank lady to share my opinions with. 2485

Looking for someone who thinks outside the bun to give me the original recipe to my heart. 3008

Are you the dark twisted fantasy to rock my world? 3066

BREAKING NEWS. You're my teenage dream. Want to give me an exclusive interview? 3638

To my Proctor Crush: I love watching you crush fennel and garbanzo beans. Don't change 2485

You: a cutie with a sense of humor. Me: the laugh track to your life. 4384

Dear Anonymous Source, I saw you on the wonderfully placed treadmills and you just looked so good. Let's have an interview and I promise I won't tell anybody your name! 2790

I've got an eye for design, and you're looking fine. I think we'd look great laid out next to each other. 4424

You're more than 1 in 8,700 to us. Let us take you out on the town — we know all the best spots. 3028 & 3664



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spotlight ON...

Dan Sheron '10, musician

INTERVIEW BY
Toren Hardee
Arts Editor

MC: Could you start out by talking about the origins of the album? How did you find yourself in Russia?

Well, I moved to Russia after I graduated for a number of reasons, the main one becomes pretty apparent when you start the record so I won't go into it. After a long dry spell I suddenly found myself writing a lot of music and, surprisingly, feeling pretty good about it. I went through a couple jobs — I had short stints as a copy-editor for the *Moscow Times* and as a generic "sales consultant" before my life really fell apart and I realized I needed to come home. But I had a lot on my mind and wasn't quite done yet, so I bought a train ticket and went to Siberia with my guitar and one change of socks. I was constantly having my mind blown by the people I was running across, and all the while writing down a lot of what was happening in notes and songs.

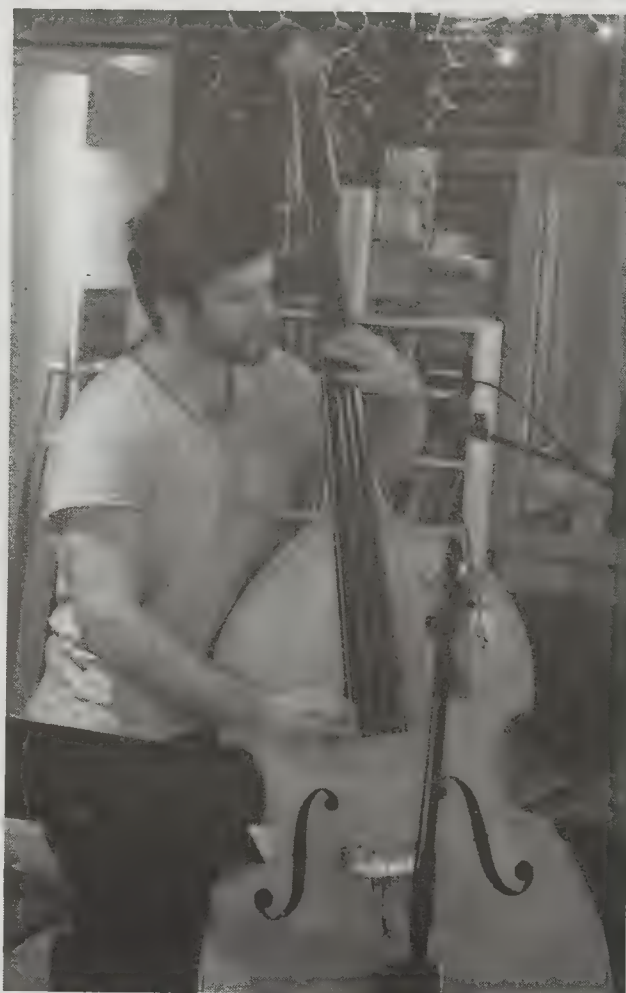
MC: So how did the "concept" for the record emerge?

By the time I made it back to Moscow a month later, I had most of what became the record written, and what I realized was that it really followed a story — more of what I guess is called a song cycle. I guess it's a terrific act of narcissism to be like, "This is my story," so I hope it managed to reach something concrete, at least amongst my friends' own experiences, and at some point it really did take on a life of its own. Without going too far into it, it's about finding a kind of love that is impossible to contain, that is all-consuming, and what happens when you surrender to it — perhaps self-realization, but also danger and harm to yourself and those around you.

When I got back to New York, I started recording demos with the help of Charlie [Freundlich '10] and John [Glouchevich '10.5], and my half-nephew (easier to just say brother) Andrew [Sheron, Berklee '10], but was really dissatisfied with how piecemeal the whole thing was. I figured that the way to unify the record was to use a constant instrumentation, play only with men that I trusted with my life (who understood the place where these songs came from), and to record the thing in a proper studio in a single day. With almost no rehearsal, I went with Charlie (Double Bass), John (Banjo), Philippe [Bronchtein '10] (Piano, Accordion), Andrew (Mandolin) and Jake [Nussbaum, Wesleyan '10] (drums) to a studio in Brooklyn, and we did all 10 songs live in one day. I did some overdubbing in Middlebury, but the whole record is pretty much a live performance, including almost all of the vocals. What was so incredible is the voice that everybody brought to the record, and in the process created a piece of music that was totally different from its original conception, but completely in step with what I thought it all meant.

Andrew produced the damn thing — besides being an unreal multi-instrumentalist and my flesh and blood, he's got a great, discerning ear, a great sensibility and the technical knowledge that I'd be lost without. In the early stages I bounced ideas off of him and he gave me really honest answers, tightened the songs up; and when all was said and done he was hearing stuff in the different takes that was lost on me, doing really subtle work to make the thing presentable.

After he graduated last May, Dan Sheron '10 packed up and left the States to spend some time in Russia. He ended up writing a set of songs that would become the forthcoming album *October's Road*, performed by a newly-formed group they dubbed Balto. We talked to him about writing music in Russia, recording an album with friends and the genre he's calling "TransSiberian Americana."



Charlie Freundlich '10 in the studio.

MC: How did you come up with that genre tag, "TransSiberian Americana?" It's clever.

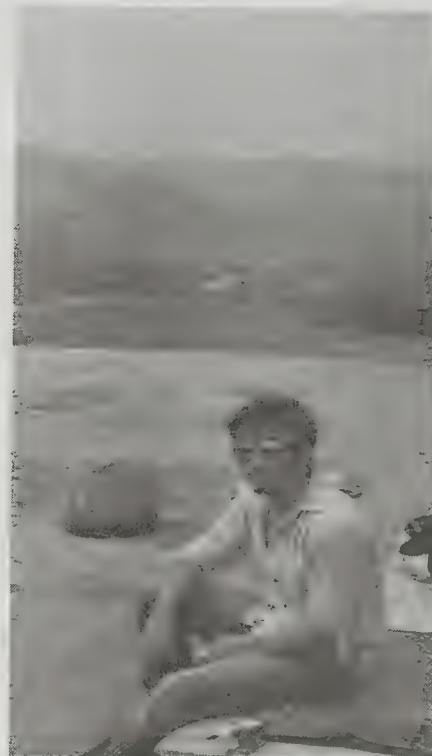
I called the sound "TransSiberian Americana" because the songs all have a pretty traditional

string band/alt. country instrumentation, but are sort of twisted, I think because of the themes that ended up in the lyrics and melodies while I was out in Russia.

I feel like the genre got created accidentally — we threw everyone into a room together with almost no rehearsal, and everyone understood each other so well (not to mention are great players all), that each song assembled itself naturally, and after about four takes we'd be in a completely new place with it — and these formerly guitar-driven songs ate the guitar alive and became so much more than that. I came to the table with a lot of really moody, dark songs that follow this story arc of going nuts and being essentially alone in it — with all the associated come-ups and come-downs, but when five other guys weighed in, added their voices, the highs got higher and the lows more devastating. The core instrumentation is acoustic guitar, mandolin, banjo, upright bass, piano/rhodes and drums, which gives a great, full sound with a lot of texture. There's a lot of flexibility in that configuration of instruments — you can have a really traditional sound or something super modern depending on how you play them.

MC: You mentioned that the producer for the Felice Brothers, a group with a pretty devoted following, had mixed the album. How did that wind up happening?

After the recording sessions we needed someone to mix the thing and I started looking around for someone who really knew how to do folk music with the sort of gritty honesty that we were hoping to achieve. I had been listening to a lot of the Felice Brothers, and figured, "hey, they're pretty local, I wonder who their mix engineer is." The answer was a Paul-Bunyan-like dude named Jeremy Backofen. Bright blue cow and all. Kind of reminded me of what Martin Box ['10.5] is going to look like in about 10 years. Turns out, he's their engineer, producer, occasional drummer, and runs a full-scale recording studio out of an abandoned high school in upstate New York. I sent him some demos and gave him the rundown of the project, and after a couple calls and emails it looked like we'd found our man. And that was it — having his ear on these songs was absolutely essential — he'd have ideas for subtleties like, "what if we pull the bottom end out for a verse so you get the full underside of the banjo, mandolin and guitar?" A lot of little things that made... the whole thing so much stronger. I had a great couple



Sheron in Russia.



Sheron, in the photo that will eventually become the cover for *October's Road*.

All photos courtesy of Dan Sheron.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 19

editors' picks

17 Green Eden
Hepburn Zoo
8 p.m. and 10:30
p.m. (Friday
performance)

A Vermonter is visited by two Spanish poets, and as history and memory become poetry and translation, he tries to reclaim what he lost in Eden. Directed by Noah Mease '11. Runs through Saturday, Feb. 19. Tickets \$4.

19 Big Action
Performance
Ensemble
Dance Theatre
2:30 - 5:30 p.m.

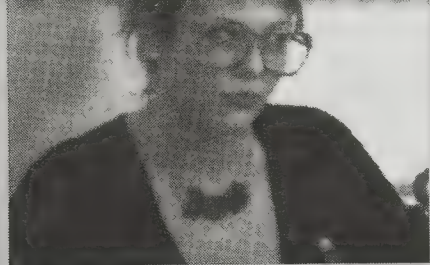
Come watch the performance take shape as Big APE gets ready for their public concerts on March 18 and 19. Other rehearsals take place on February 26, March 5 and March 12 at the same time and place. Free.

24 Two Films by
Matthew Barney
Axinn Center
at Starr Library,
Room 232
7 p.m.

In conjunction with the exhibition *Mixed Signals*, the Middlebury College Museum of Art presents a single screening of two works by the artist Matthew Barney: *Cremaster 4* and *Drawing Restraint*. Refreshments between screenings. Free.

24 Act Natural:
Artist Talk by
Joey Fauerso
Johnson, Room
304
4:30 p.m.

This award-winning visual artist's work spans across paper, landscapes, animation and installations, exploring physical and metaphorical boundaries and human consciousness, and transcendence.

Et tu,
SWEATPANTS?

by Mary-Caitlin Hentz

A few months ago, senior Simran Bhalla changed my life with a single text message — the context of which has long since faded with each passing Four Loko. Yet what remains, two simple words emblazoned forever upon my very soul, has made a world of difference: “Man Repeller.”

For those of you with better things to do than troll the internet looking for fashion statements, “The Man Repeller” is a blog run by Leandra Medine, a brilliant, daring and snarky-as-hell 20-something. She’s been featured in *New York Magazine*, *Harpers Bazar*, *The New York Times*, *Nylon Magazine*, *Allure* and *The Huffington Post*, along with several dozen other wonderful publications. Her following has been, rightfully so, explosively on the rise.

But what exactly sets “The Man Repeller” apart from the thousands of other fashion bloggers out there on the interwebz? Well, Medine is not only spot-on in predicting the wearable weather, but she also very bluntly calls it how it is: fashion is not meant to be sexy. Innovative styles are easy to criticize, widely disavowed and inherently, well, man-repellant.

This fact is contingent on the constantly proven, sweeping generalization that most men like their clothes comfortable, attractive and simple. Women? Well look at high heels and skinny jeans and tell me if we flock to comfortable and rational; there is an obvious gender divide when it comes to the ways of the cloth.

And so were born Medine’s “Man Repellers,” adventurous, outspoken girls who don’t put getting laid at the forefront of their ‘going out’-fits. These girls’ insatiable passion for feeling authentic outweighs thoughts of acceptance or convention; they are forerunners in the revolution against normalcy. They are pro-you, me and everyone we know being themselves, even if that means layering flannel plaid and leopard print.

Yet the concept of man-repelling isn’t exactly a new one. Un-sexiness has always been at the very heart of designer fashion. How many times have you looked at magazine photos from any given *Fashion Week* and cringed with: “Who in God’s name would ever wear any of this crap? She looks like a (choose one) homeless person/mental patient/circus freak!” But clearly there are people out there who do buy the see through plastic bag and duct tape dresses — some take those explosions of artistry and tone them down with mainstreaming accessories and well placed slips. However, those so-called “Man-Repellers” run with the energy and theatricality of the runway; they are the Lady Gagas of the upper middle-class, only with less raw meat.

Only on “The Man Repeller” will you be encouraged to wear multiple watches on the same arm, steal your brother’s bow-ties or turn a red flannel blanket into a shawl. Medine will ask you to channel the dress codes of Disney characters, Pee-Wee Herman and, quite frequently, the subtext of a Georgia O’Keefe painting (she has recurring postings on clothes that look like, well, lady parts).

So the next time you’re thinking about Facebook stalking your ex-boyfriend, Sporcle-ing or relapsing into MiddConfessional, go “repelling” instead. You won’t be disappointed. It’s what I’m doing in Cape Town International airport while airing for a flight to Kuala Lumpur (how shi-shi of me, I know).

Yes, I’ve gone and graduated, and so it is with great sadness I leave you all into the well-trained hands of fashion bloggers everywhere. Keep breaking rules and wearing things that will get you made fun of. After all, what doesn’t kill you makes you stronger. Who would want to be boring and normal, anyhow? Not me.

XO Mary-Cait

“Breaking the Huddle” in Mixed Signals

By Brandon Grigull
STAFF WRITER

“Breaking the Huddle,” a lecture on the opening of a new gallery at the Middlebury College Art Museum, existed in my mind as something very stereotypical. The new gallery, *Mixed Signals*, seeks to discuss “popular notions of masculinity and sport.” As perhaps the least athletic person you could ever meet, I expected to see solely images of sculpted, poised men exploding with bravado and narcissism. As it turned out, there was a lot of that. But when Christopher Bedford, the curator of the Wexner Center for the Arts at Ohio State University, dove into the intent of artists who generated these images, it all seemed much more deep and beautiful.

“Breaking the Huddle,” according to Bedford, “began as a concept [while working] at the Los Angeles County Art Museum. The gallery exists on a threshold that hasn’t been crossed very much.”

Bedford then gave a preamble on another place in his life where the concept of this exhibit was being formed in his mind: as a member of the infamously sub-par Oberlin football team. At this time, Bedford “was turning [his] attention to contemporary art” and “the conception of gender in sports. There was a lack of conversation on this subject.”

As a football player, Bedford was interested in how we conceive our own gender. The lecture covered three main themes that surrounded sport-themed art, and it examined the works of many artists in and out of the collection.

The first major focus of the exhibition was attire and self-presentation of athletes. The first big artist for this subject, and Bedford’s entire concept, was Matthew Barney, whose *Cremaster Cycle* of Films and 2002 Retrospective Gallery at the Guggenheim thrust him into the public eye. Bedford gave an example of one of the opening works at 2002 Retrospective, “a bench press made of Vaseline,” which conjures traditional stereotypes of a bench press and sexual connotations of Vaseline.

The pure aesthetic side of self-presentation in sports was demonstrated by many artists in the exhibition. Renowned photographer Catherine Opie took a series of photographs themed on high school athletes. According to Bedford, Opie took the photographs “within 10 to 15 seconds” of meeting the athletes in order to capture how they wanted to be seen as athletes. Other artists include Mark Bradford, a homosexual LA-based black artist whose major work focused on him playing basketball in downtown LA wearing a ball gown in LA Lakers colors. Another example lay in renowned British artist Sam Taylor-Wood’s photo of two boxing heavyweights post-match.

The next major focus of this presentation was on the commerce of sport. One of the most iconic images in the presentation was a piece by Hank Willis Thomas depicting the chest of a black athlete “scarred” with the Nike symbol across his chest. Perhaps my favorite piece in the presentation was by Brian Jungen, a Canadian artist with Native American roots. His sculpture col-

lection, *Prototype for a New Understanding*, consisted of a series of Native American war masks constructed out of Air Jordan basketball shoes.

But the most provocative theme of the presentation was how much we focus on athletes. One of the prime examples was of Douglas Gordon’s *Zidane*, a film focusing entirely on soccer great Zinedine Zidane. Bedford describes the experience as “incredibly claustrophobic.” Paul Pfeiffer’s *The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse* depicted basketball players by themselves on courts with all advertisements stripped away, to show how focused the crowd was on the players above anything else. Taylor-Wood’s iconic *David Robert Joseph Beckham*, depicting David Beckham pretending to sleep, often elicits viewer responses about his “sexual appeal.”

In the intro to his lecture, Bedford stated that he didn’t want this lecture to be “a seminar” or some kind of intellectual one-sided discourse where he would be talking down to the people. Perhaps this is addressed by the nature of his presentation. The audience was exposed to only images. And perhaps with this presentation, the sheer diversity of the collection would show through and allow everyone to take away something that they like and form their own intelligent opinions. In an audience Q&A, he was asked what he would like an athlete, as a stereotypical non-museum-goer, to feel after seeing this exhibition. Bedford said he would like the gallery to give such groups “the incentive to be more inclusive and express themselves more freely.”

Sutherland performs the best of folk

By Deirdre Sackett
ARTS EDITOR

Affiliate artist Pete Sutherland performed at the Mahaney Center for the Arts this past Friday night, entertaining the audience with a rousing concert of both original and classic folk music. Joined by a slew of friends and family, including his wife Karen, the multitasking instrumentalist, singer and composer put on a splendid show featuring the best of traditional folk. The repertoire featured ballads, instrumentals and rousing fiddle pieces, including Sutherland’s original pieces; his compositions spoke of topics close to home and heart, such as the Otter Creek or hiking in the hills. Another original piece described the anecdotes of a local elderly woman via song.

Sutherland was frequently joined onstage by his musical guests, including fellow affiliate artist Tim Cummings on vocals, bagpipe and whistles, Will Patton ’70 on bass and mandolin, a “Singing Crew” and a “Fiddling Flash Mob” featuring Vermont fiddlers and Anika James ’11.

As an avid fan of Celtic music, I was particularly struck by the soaring and wonderfully melancholy sounds of Cummings’ whistles and bagpipes, and when combined with Sutherland’s weeping violin, the two created a duet that was both incredibly mournful and inspiring. However, the true highlight of the show for most of the audience was the final number, which featured the Fiddling Flash Mob performing a fast-paced piece. The sight of all the violins’ bows moving in swift unison was really something awesome to see, and it was clear from the smiles on the performers’ faces that they were absorbed by their art, feeding off the awesome energy generated by the rousing music.

“Remember, no dancing,” Sutherland would cheekily remind the audience between pieces from time to time, though that did not stop some audience members from getting up and dancing during the last piece, or clapping along to some of the faster, upbeat songs.

Sutherland is certainly no stranger to folk music. For nearly four decades, he has



Courtesy

Affiliate artist Pete Sutherland performed original and classic folk music at the Mahaney Center for the Arts, Friday, Feb. 11, along with various friends and family.

performed in bands such as the Arm and Hammer String Band, the Woodshed All-stars and Rhythm in Shoes, as well as in the contemporary folk trio Metamora. Locally, he served as artistic director for the Champlain Valley Folk Festival, the Fort Ticonderoga Folk Festival and the Vergennes Opera House, was a charter member of Burlington’s Social Band and has produced more than 80 studio albums. Sutherland also occasionally fiddles for his contraband jam-band, the Clayfoot Strutters. He holds many honors in folk music, including “numerous cheap fiddle contest ribbons” and the 1991 Ralph Nading Hill Award, as well as being a finalist for the Vermont State Historical Society’s 2009

Hathaway Prize. His original music has been covered by other folk artists, and was featured on two pieces of NPR’s *All Things Considered*. Recently, Sutherland wrote for the score of the film *The Summer of Walter Hacks*.

Sutherland intended this concert to be a kick-off event for a new scholarship fund for the Northeast Heritage Music Camp, an annual week-long gathering of folk musicians for classes, workshops, dances and concerts. Sutherland hopes that by creating the scholarship and raising awareness for the camp’s mission at his concerts, he can broaden the access for even more talented young musicians to attend and develop a love of folk music that will last a lifetime.

Dominique Young Unique moves bodies

By Eliza Wallace
STAFF WRITER

While Dominique Young Unique might not live up to the last third of her stage name, the first two thirds seem to be pretty accurate. She is named Dominique and she is young, only 19 years old, as far as this reporter can discern. The Tampa, Fl. rapper played a show last Friday night in McCullough Social Space, sponsored by Wonnacott Commons. Her best known song "Show My Ass" has been well-received by music publications such as *Pitchfork*, and she has a new mixtape out called *Domination*. The relatively brief show was enjoyed by a sizeable audience who took advantage of the rhythm and open space to dance with wild abandon. On the final song, several enthusiastic individuals even hopped up on stage to join her in her gyrations. Student energy was high and people were having fun, so if one considers that the most important goal of a Middlebury concert, then it was achieved.

On the other hand, music and performance quality were lacking. Young's background tracks seemed to be prerecorded and her accompanying DJ didn't seem to play any active role in the performance. As for her lyrics, they had a very small vocabulary range and explored themes that didn't travel much farther than

her derriere. She also seemed to have a pretty scant arsenal of actual songs. Luckily, we Middlebury students often revel in music that is so appalling that it becomes great, and though she may lack genuine talent, she still brought liveliness to a dance floor of cabin-fevered Vermonters.

Though Dominique and her performance were not necessarily unique, maybe she will be able to slide into the industry's "Top 40 Hits" genre with the rest of the groups who willingly bank on cliché lyrics and catchy beats — something I must admit does have a place on dance party playlists everywhere. Audience response

was undoubtedly positive, though irony and inebriation may have had something to do with it. A fan who went up on stage at the end, overjoyed by her moment above the crowd, shouted that it was the best concert she had ever been

"It was great to see how we came out for it and how she responded to us."

— Peter Walker Kaplan '12.5

to at Middlebury as she stumbled out the door. The best thing was Dominique's shout-out to all of us via Twitter: *omg loving vermont so snowey here gotta love the fans they the best so dancy at young unique concert they showed me so much love mauh!*

"It was a really good turnout for an MCAB event of that scale," said Peter Kaplan '12.5, who organized the event. "It was great to see how we came out for it and how she responded to us. The concert was essentially made by the crowd energy."



Photos by Neekta Abbosen

Dominique Young Unique performed at McCullough Social Space on Friday, Feb. 11 and kept students dancing throughout the show.

Recent alumni record folk album

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17

days up in the high school hanging out and seeing him work; he's king of the 13-hour, marathon mixing sessions.

MC: What's your musical resumé, so to speak; have you ever recorded a record like this? And how did the Balto group come together — other than most of you being Midd albums and close friends?

I was always in one band or another, from early high school onward; a lot of punk rock, post-rock, alternative. Since the very beginning of freshman year I've been in groups with Charlie. Our longest lived project was The Dead Jettsons with Charlie Henschen '10 on drums. We released an EP of original material called *What Future?* in our sophomore year. It's still on iTunes.

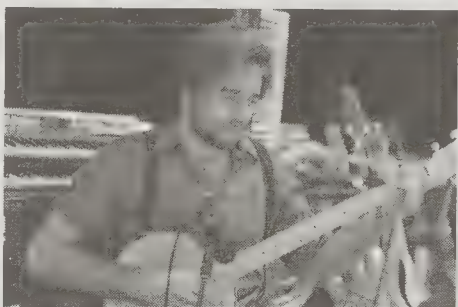
The roots of the Balto group is in a group that used to gather outside the library and play for hours. It was usually me, John, Charlie and Eamon Fogarty '11 with friends, and we called ourselves "the assholes outside the library." Played a lot of Neil [Young], Stones, Beatles, Dylan traditionals — annoyed a lot of people, may or may not

have ended up in the calendar. Charlie and I also played with the Scrambled Legs Jazz group.

MC: Finally, what are your plans for promoting/releasing/distributing this album? Will there be shows in the future? Perhaps one at Middlebury?

We played our first shows in February and have several more in the next few weeks. We're playing at Bar 4 in Brooklyn on Feb. 18, Cafe Vivaldi in Manhattan on Feb. 26, and Pete's Candy Store on March 3. I'd like to play in Middlebury in the spring, but don't have anything in the books yet. As far as promoting the record, I really haven't

thought about where we should take this — I thought it would detract from the process, so I was afraid to bring up the subject. We're going to make the album available online immediately. But really, at this point all we hope is that people hear the record and they play it for their friends, that we can play some good shows, and that maybe we can get enough momentum to go on tour.



John Glouchevich '10.5 (left) and Philippe Bronchtein '10 (right) in the studio.

Courtesy

FOR THE record

by Zach Blair

Artist | Smith Westerns

Album | *Dye It Blonde*

Chicago's Smith Westerns showed up late for the party — about 40 years late. The teenage quartet's home-brewed combination of garage-rock guitars, Beatles melodies, T-Rex and Bowie-esque glam-rock throws us right back into 1971. But this is no revivalist cover band. Smith Westerns' sophomore album, *Dye It Blonde*, sees the band introducing its obvious influences to the 21st century, and the results are striking.

Since the release of their 2009 eponymous debut, Smith Westerns (with the help of producer Chris Coady of Yeah Yeah Yeahs, TV on the Radio and Beach House fame) have ditched their overly distorted, lo-fi sound in favor of a cleaner, sunnier and frankly, more enjoyable approach. As a result, this album leans less towards the drunken scuzz side of garage rock and more towards the innocent pop side of things. But despite the change in direction, *Dye It Blonde*, drenched in reverb and echo, still maintains the hot and fuzzy aspects of the band's throw-back style.

Album opener and lead single "Weekend," for example, drowns singer Cullen Omori's wispy vocals under an onslaught of echoing chimes, doubled guitars and oscillating synths. Sure, he doesn't have the strongest set of pipes around, but that's all a part of the aesthetic — dreamy, layered rock requires dreamy, layered vocals, right? "Weekend" also showcases some of *Dye It Blonde*'s best lyrics: "What do you think? Is it normal to go through life oh so formal?" Omori's shyness and innocence shine through as he continually contemplates the prospects of adulthood and love.

One of the few flaws of the album, however, is when this innocence crosses over into banality: "Oh girl, can't you see what you're doing to me?" and "Don't you cry. Wipe that tear from your eye," for example, are just too vague and stale to really mean anything.

What Smith Westerns lack in lyrical depth, however, they make up for with song structure, particularly their uncanny ability to send steady verses into soaring, sing-along choruses. Case in point: "All Die Young," with its lonesome organ and weepy guitar pitted against lyrics longing for love and youth, is the last song on earth you would expect to burst into a shuffling chorus reminiscent of John Lennon's "Oh Yoko!" But sure enough, hiding behind that sneaky drum roll is the jangly piano and falsetto of that 1971 classic. In fact, around every corner of *Dye It Blonde*, you're sure to find something unexpected, whether it's the surprise disco breakdown of "Dance Away" or the bubbling steel drum in "Imagine, Pt. 3." Smith Westerns' attention to these details is what makes this album such an immediate success.

For a group of self-proclaimed "losers back in school" who picked up their instruments to pick up girls, Smith Westerns know a surprising amount about music. *Dye It Blonde* isn't the most innovative album ever, especially with its influences so heavily stitched onto its sleeves (they might as well put Marc Bolan in the credits), but it's simply a great rock record — maybe even the best of 2011 so far. So what's the future look like for this Chicago quartet? Well, they're certainly poised to win over lots of new fans, because if their last words on the album are any indication, they're out to "dye the whole world blonde."



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Women's hockey rides defense to victory again

By Damon Hatheway

STAFF WRITER

The women's hockey team hosted then third-ranked Plattsburgh on Tuesday. Riding a seven-game winning streak in which they had allowed just three goals, the Panthers overcame their struggles against Plattsburgh, beating the Cardinals for the first time since the 2006 National Championship game.

Middlebury was winless against the Cardinals in their previous 10 games (0-7-3). Senior goaltender Alexi Bloom '11 made 20 saves in the game and led the Panthers to their 10th shutout victory of the season. Her performance earned her the NESCAC player of the week, the second time she's been honored with the award this season.

The Panthers and Cardinals combined for 12 shots in a goalless first period, but after nearly 40 minutes of scoreless hockey the Panthers capitalized on a mistake made by Plattsburgh goaltender Mandy Mackrell '11 who was unable to control the shot of Lauren Greer '13 who came away with the game's only goal with less than a minute remaining in the second period. The goal was

Greer's seventh of the season and was assisted on the play by Julia Ireland '11. Greer and Ireland maintained their spots atop the Panthers scoring leaders. For Ireland the assist was her sixth of the year and was her 18th point of the season. Greer meanwhile has 10 assists along with her seven goals for 17 points on the season. Bloom made eight saves in the final period as the Panthers closed the door on a 1-0 win over the Cardinals.

This win came in stark contrast to the last time the Panthers and the Cardinal faced off, which ended in a 5-0 loss for the Panthers. Following that loss on January 3rd the Panthers are 10-1-1 and have allowed just six total goals in all the games during that time.

"This game was very different than the one back in January," said Bloom. "We came out a completely different team, and I think we can contribute it to our success in the last month. All we needed to do was to build up some confidence. Once you can convince yourself that you are capable of winning, anything is possible."

The Panthers have been led by the

play of Bloom who leads all of Division III women's hockey in save percentage, shutouts and goals allowed. Tuesday she improved her save percentage to an astounding .958 on the season.

"Lexi continues to play very well," said head coach Bill Mandigo. "She exudes confidence, and it has an effect on all of her teammates. I thought Madison Styrbicki ['13] played very well too."

The defensive play of the Panthers was also drastically improved in their second meeting with the Cardinals. In the first meeting, Plattsburgh pounded 48 shots on net. Tuesday the Panthers limited their SUNY rivals to just 20 shots. Now allowing less than a goal per game, the Panthers defensive unit currently ranks as the second best in Division III women's hockey.

While this win draws immediate comparisons between this team and the 2006 National Championship team as the last two teams to beat Plattsburgh, Bill Mandigo put the win in perspective.

"We like to play good teams to measure how much we have improved," he said. "We are very happy with the win, but there are

still three important games remaining in the regular schedule."

The fourth-ranked Panthers will have their work cut out for them as their regular season comes to its close. Middlebury hosts third-ranked Norwich on Tuesday and then travels to Colby and Bowdoin this weekend to finish the regular season.

Bloom and the Panthers will have their hands full with the second-ranked scoring offense in the country on Tuesday. Norwich scores 4.91 goals per game, trailing only RIT in that category. The Cadets are led by senior forward Sophie Leclerc who leads the nation (D-III) in total points.

"This will be our toughest week of the season," said Bloom. "Norwich is a great team, and they will come after us harder than Plattsburgh. Then we'll head up to Maine, which is one of the toughest weekends travel-wise. Nothing is promised from here on out, and we'll really need to earn every win."

Both Middlebury and Norwich (18-3-1) bring eight game winning streaks into their matchup Tuesday. The Panthers and Cadets drew 2-2 last year.

Men's squash sees success in matches leading into playoffs

By Brigit Carlson
STAFF WRITER

The Panther men played at home this weekend and had yet another great weekend on the squash court, winning three out of the five matches they played. The Middlebury men started the weekend off against ninth ranked Dartmouth, who proved to be a formidable match for the Panthers. The men fell 9-0 but rallied and came back strong when they played UVM, taking them down 8 to 1. The men continued on strong to beat Bard College 9-0, and despite losing to Williams 7-2, they once again beat University of Vermont 8-1. This was a challenging line up for the Panthers, but they were able to rise to the occasion and demonstrate their skill and depth against every team they played.

Parker Hurst '14 and Addi DiSesa '12 had a great weekend, breaking through the purple wall for Middlebury in bringing the men's squash team its first ever victories against Williams in their individual matches. DiSesa commented on this amazing victory for the Middlebury men and its implications for the future.

"In all likelihood we will play Williams again in two weeks in the first round of the

College Squash Association nationals at Harvard. "When we play them again, I am sure that our confidence level will be much higher than it was heading into Sunday's match," DiSesa said.

"As I mentioned earlier, our team has improved each time out. I don't expect our next match will be any different. We can do some really great things this season. In many ways, this has been the best men's squash season ever for Middlebury. It's truly an honor and privilege to be a part of it."

Parker '14 also had an incredible match against Dartmouth's third ranked player, dragging the game out to five matches before ultimately falling. Valentin Quan '11, Middlebury's number one on the ladder, also had a great weekend, and played a great match against Williams, drawing it out to five games before losing.

Other notable matches include victories by Will Piekos '11, Reeve Waud '13, Mark Sorrentino '11, Phillip Goldstein '14, Dan Prior '14, Maurtis Pot '11, Nick Ses-hadri '14, Chris Ivsin '13 and JP Garafalo '12.

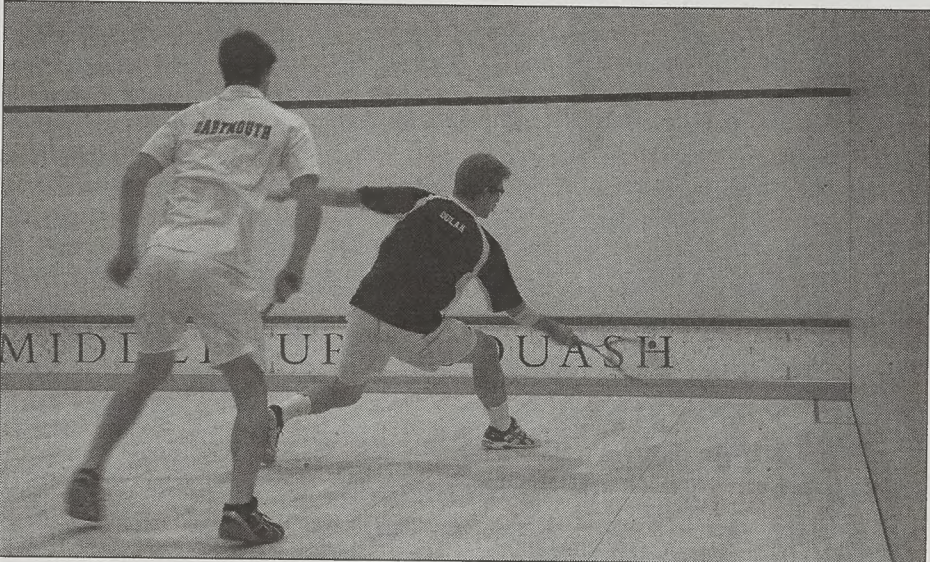
The men's squash team is only going to get better in coming years, if this year has been any indication of what is to come.

Some really incredible matches this weekend and in weekends past were played by the sophomore and first-year members. Many of the players who led Middlebury to a double victory over UVM and the victory over Bard College this past weekend were first-years or sophomores.

Coach John Illig has high hopes for

his team going forward, "The men's team is playing well, is injury-free and is peaking at just the right time. We've had a great season, and we're looking forward to Team Nationals."

The men's squash team will play at Team nationals two weekends from now, February 25th-27th at Harvard University.



Courtesy

Jay Dolan '13 dukes it out against Middlebury's toughest opponent yet, Dartmouth, who won 9-0.

PANTHER SCOREBOARD

Date	Sport	Vs.	Results	Comments
2/11 2/12	Men's hockey	UMass-Boston Babson	4-1 W 2-1 W	The season's rough start is long behind this team.
2/11 2/12	Women's basketball	Amherst Trinity	63-43 L 66-47 W	Hopefully the resounding victory against Trinity will build some momentum going into the NESCAC tourney.
2/12	Skiing	Dartmouth Carnival	Third Place	Breaking past UNH, Dartmouth and UVM are next in sight for the home carnival.
2/11 2/12	Men's basketball	Amherst Trinity	69-61 W 57-56 W	Trinity was hair-raising and much too close for a game against the fourth seed in the NESCAC, but a W nonetheless.
2/09	Women's hockey	Plattsburgh State	1-0 W	Yet another goose egg for Alexi Bloom '11. Why are we not surprised?

BY THE NUMBERS

3	Number of consecutive 20-win seasons for men's basketball.
2	Number of NESCAC player of the week awards goalie Alexi Bloom '11 has won this year.
14	Number of points higher the ski team scored at the Dartmouth Carnival than at the UVM carnival, pushing them from fourth to third place.
5	Number of wins on the season by the squash teams over rivals Williams and Amherst.
32	The percentage of money given to free agents this offseason spent by the Phillies, Red Sox, and Yankees.

Editors' Picks				
Questions	Alyssa O'Gallagher	Brooks Coe	Dillon Hupp	Alex Edel
Will women's basketball beat Colby in their NESCAC quarterfinal match?	NO Sorry girls, but Colby's riding a seven-game winning streak here.	NO They'll make it close, but Colby is a very solid squad	YES Winning percentages be damned, I'm sticking with the girls on this one.	NO It will be a good game, but Colby has home court advantage on their side.
Will men's hockey stay in first place in the NESCAC standings?	NO I think this may be a statistical impossibility.	YES I don't really understand this three-way tie nonsense, but we're the best team.	NO The numbers don't make sense. Either way, these guys are on fire.	YES I am also confused by the ranking situation, but they've been playing much better recently.
Will Robert Cone '14 finish in the top 5 in GS at the Middlebury Carnival?	YES From what I hear, this kid's epic.	YES He's gotten third in three of the four carnivals. Can't see why he won't again on his home turf.	YES Way to softball this question in, Brooks.	YES Not only has he finished third four times in a row, he'll be on a very familiar course.
Will the men's or women's squash team finish higher at Team Nationals?	WOMEN'S How many times can you say "get it, girls" before it not longer seems genuine.	WOMEN'S Insert pun on "squashing" opponents.	WOMEN'S They're really just much, much better than the men are.	WOMEN'S They've really been showing their strength and depth in recent matches.
Will the Celtics or the Heat have a better record by the end of the week?	HEAT The dream team? Really I just can't root for anything Boston.	CELTICS Only because I could not choose the Wizards.	HEAT As I've said many times in this space, f@%& the Celtics.	HEAT Because I'm a Lakers fan and don't like the Celtics.
Career Record	71-55 (.563)	27-41 (.397)	37-31 (.544)	1-4 (.200)

Women's basketball earns seventh-seed in NESCAC

By Dillon Hupp

SPORTS EDITOR

With their NESCAC seeding and seniors' pride on the line on Saturday, the Middlebury College Women's basketball team came through with a big win over Trinity, which ended a four-game NESCAC losing streak and gave them confidence heading into the NESCAC tournament, which begins on Saturday. The win over the Bantams followed a loss to second-ranked Amherst at home the previous evening.

Middlebury, whose NESCAC misfortunes had been well-documented going into their game against Amherst, played a very respectable first half against the heavily favored Lady Jeffs on Friday. Deliberately slowing the pace of their offense to offset the high-powered attack of Amherst, who averages 80 points per game, the Panthers managed only 16 first-half points, but still only trailed by nine at the break due to their ability to hold possession and their efforts on the defensive end of the floor. Middlebury did turn the ball over 14 times in the first half, which led to 12 of Amherst's 25 first-half points.

In the second half, Middlebury pulled within eight points after a Stephany Surrrette '12 layup cut the lead to 31-23 with just over 15 minutes left, but did not get closer, as Amherst was able to pull away over the final 10 minutes of the game en route to an eventual 63-43 win.

Poor shooting plagued both teams throughout the night, but especially the Panthers, who only managed 33 percent

from the floor. Tracy Borsinger '13 led the Panthers in scoring with 18 on the night.

"We fought hard the entire game and never made them feel comfortable," said Brittany Perfetti '12 of the loss to Amherst. "Being able to compete against them proves that we are still a threat in the NESCAC and are a very competitive NESCAC team."

Playing on Senior night the following Saturday, the Panthers seemed determined to deliver a win for the home Pepin Arena crowd, and win they did over the Trinity College Bantams by a final score of 66-47. Sparked by an early 12-2 run, Middlebury and Trinity dueled throughout the first half, with the Bantams cutting the lead to as little as one point with less than two minutes left, but the Panthers were able to add a few more points for an eventual halftime lead of 26-21.

In the second half, Middlebury took advantage of eight points from Maddie Moreau '12 as they continued to build their lead over the Bantams. Additionally, the Panthers made every single three-point basket they attempted after the break. Oftentimes leading by over 20 points in the closing minutes of the game, Middlebury would go on to win by a final tally of 19, earning the seventh seed in the NESCAC tournament in the process.

Senior Co-captain Lauren Sanchez '11 shone on senior night, leading the Panthers with 16 points despite only attempting three field goals—she contributed 13 points from the charity stripe on 16 attempts, and continued to build on her own record of

all-time free throws made for Middlebury women's basketball. Moreau scored 15 against the Bantams, and Perfetti added 13 points of her own.

"The Trinity game had a lot of sentimental value for us," said Perfetti. "We wanted to make Lauren and [Co-captain and senior] Allie Needham '11 proud of all the hard work and dedication they've shown to this team."

Up next for Middlebury is a NESCAC quarterfinal game against second-seeded Colby College. The Panthers endured one of their more lopsided losses against the Mules on February 4th, falling 81-60, but will look to even the odds this go-around in the hopes of advancing deep into the NESCAC tournament.

"We're really going to review the game tape from the last time we played Colby in preparing for them this week," said Sanchez. "If we can improve in areas where we made mistakes and capitalize on their weaknesses, it should be a great game."



Andrew Podrygula, Photos Editor

Maddie Moreau '12 lays one in against Amherst.

Williams falls yet again

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

lost by the same margin and with the overall match now tied 4-4, first-year Chen would once again play a decisive role in the newfound Middlebury-Williams women's squash rivalry.

Ahead two games to love, Chen nearly sealed the match for Middlebury with a 10-9 match point in the third game. A combination of an unreachable lob by her Williams opponent and perhaps some rookie nerves undid Chen's bid for a clean sweep as Eliana Saltzman, her opponent, took the game 12-10.

The match's third and fourth games reflected a competitiveness lacking in the first two games, which Chen won easily, 11-6 and 11-1, respectively. In a back-and-forth battle, the Middlebury first-year finally heard the crowd in the Bubble exhale collectively, winning the de-

cisive fourth game 11-9. As she left the court, Chen's teammates swarmed her in a group hug not seen in the Bubble in years.

"I felt relieved and happy [after the match]," Chen said. "I felt a lot of pressure during the match but I didn't want to show it. Ultimately, we established that we can beat Williams and I was happy to be a part of the win."

Chen's teammates were equally thrilled with the unprecedented victory. "The depth of our team was critical in the overall win against Williams," Shannon observed. "Without winning the top positions, we proved that we can get wins from anywhere on the ladder."

The Panthers will head to Princeton, NJ, this weekend to compete in the National Championship's B-Flight. Tenth-ranked Middlebury will likely face #15 Mount Holyoke College, a team the women beat 7-2 in January.



Andrew Podrygula

Middlebury defeated UMASS-Boston 4-1 and Babson 2-1 this weekend to improve to 11-6-5.

Yancheck excels in goal

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

scoring."

Belisle, Longo and Wiggins all showed up on the score sheet against UMASS-Boston on Friday night. With John Yancheck '12 between the pipes, the Panthers cruised to victory over UMASS-Boston in an ECAC-East conference matchup. Charlie Strauss '12 scored his team-leading 11th goal of the year, assisted by Chaz Svoboda '11, six minutes into the first frame. An unassisted tally coming from the aforementioned Belisle followed Strauss' goal, with Longo later netting his second of the year, assisted by Martin Drolet '11, to give the Panthers a 3-0 lead after one period.

Belisle added another goal, assisted by Wiggins, to push the lead to 4-0 eleven minutes into the second. Yancheck conceded his only goal two minutes into the third on a UMASS power play, leading the Panthers to a 4-1 win and notching his seventh win of the year.

Yancheck was again in the cage against Babson the following day, as the Beavers invaded Kenyon arena. Babson struck early in the first, scoring a power play goal a mere 1:30 into the first frame and forcing the

Panthers to play from behind for the only time all weekend. The Panthers answered quickly, however, as Belisle got his seventh of the year three minutes later, assisted by Ken Suchoski '11 and Robbie Donahoe '14.

Suchoski scored his third goal of the year seven minutes in the second, assisted by Belisle and Mathieu Castonguay '13, which proved to be the game's final score at 2-1. Yancheck pushed his record to 8-1-4, solidifying himself as the team's goalie heading into postseason play.

"It is important to know that the team has confidence in both Yancheck and Nick BonDurant '14 at goalie," said Beaney. "John has the experience and has found a way to win night in and night out this season. He will likely be our keeper down the stretch looking at the NESCAC tournament."

This year's squad has proven to be a resilient bunch, with the slow start ultimately not preventing them from being exactly where they wanted at this point in the year.

"As I said to the team the other night, if somebody had said that we'd be tied for first in the NESCAC with one weekend left to play," said Beaney, "I would have said they were nuts!"



POWER RANKINGS

COMPILED BY THE TUFTS DAILY

With the conference tournaments starting up for men's and women's basketball soon, Amherst has retained its seat on the throne atop the NESCAC Power Rankings. In the latest results, the Lord Jeffs stayed below the 3.00-point plateau, thanks to a unanimous No. 1 showing in women's hoops.

Middlebury held serve in the second-place spot, while both Williams and Hamilton leap-frogged Bowdoin into third and fourth, respectively. The Polar Bears, undone by a seventh-place showing in men's basketball, fell to fifth.

Meanwhile, Trinity and Bates flopped spots at six and seven, while the bottom four—Colby, Tufts, Conn. College and Wesleyan remained unchanged.

With the regular-season slate winding down, the Power Rankings will continue throughout the NESCAC Tournaments, before opening up the spring season with a fresh batch of standings.

THIS WEEK	SCHOOL	MEN'S BASKETBALL	WOMEN'S BASKETBALL	MEN'S HOCKEY	WOMEN'S HOCKEY	AVERAGE	LAST WEEK
1	AMHERST	3.00	1.00	4.00	2.00	2.50	1 ↔
2	MIDDLEBURY	2.00	7.50	1.75	1.00	3.06	2 ↔
3	WILLIAMS	1.00	3.75	2.50	8.00	3.81	4 ↑
4	HAMILTON	—	—	2.25	6.00	4.13	5 ↑
5	BOWDOIN	7.00	2.75	4.50	4.40	4.56	3 ↓
6	TRINITY	4.00	7.50	6.25	3.00	5.19	7 ↑
7	BATES	6.00	5.75	—	—	5.88	6 ↓
8	COLBY	9.50	2.50	6.75	7.00	6.44	8 ↔
9	TUFTS	5.75	5.25	10.00	—	7.00	9 ↔
10	CONN. COLLEGE	7.75	9.25	9.00	5.00	7.75	10 ↔
11	WESLEYAN	9.00	9.75	8.00	9.00	8.94	11 ↔

The poll was devised as follows: Each voter ranked all NESCAC schools in each sport, and those scores were averaged to create a composite ranking for each sport. The composites were then averaged to determine each school's overall ranking. Note that Hamilton does not compete in men's and women's basketball in the NESCAC, Bates does not compete in men's and women's hockey and Tufts does not compete in women's hockey.

This week's list was determined by polling Amro El-Adle (Amherst Student), Seth Walder (Bowdoin Orient), Mike Flint and Nick Woolf (Conn. College Voice) and Alex Prewitt (Tufts Daily).

DESIGN BY STEVEN SMITH/TUFTS DAILY

Skiing places third at Dartmouth Carnival, reaching podium and earning best finish yet

By Martin Breu
STAFF WRITER

The Middlebury ski team produced its best result of the year this past weekend, taking third place in the Dartmouth Carnival. Middlebury has had some great individual results this year, but this was the first time the Panthers collectively found their groove.

UVM kept its stranglehold on the top spot of the podium, while Dartmouth was second in its home carnival. The standout performance of the weekend for the Panthers was provided by rookie Robert Cone '14, who placed third in both races to lead the men's alpine team to two second place finishes.

The 100th anniversary Dartmouth Carnival kicked off on Friday with a 5/10km skate race for the Nordic teams at Oak Hill in Hanover, NH. Frigid but fast conditions greeted racers, with temperatures hovering in the single digits when the races started.

Dartmouth started off its home carnival the right way by taking the top team score in the men's race, behind an individual win by Sam Tarling of the Big Green. The UVM skiers maintained contact with Dartmouth, however, by sweeping places third through fifth; the Catamounts placed a close second behind Dartmouth.

Chase Marston '12 continued to show that he is the most consistent performer on the Nordic team, leading the Panthers with a 10th place finish; Marston has finished in the top 15 for every race of the 2011 season. Rookie Ben Lustgarten '14 and senior Jimmy Levins '11 were the next two finishers for the Panthers in 14th and 17th places, respectively. The Middlebury men earned a fourth place team score for their efforts.

In the women's race, Caitlin Patterson of UVM remained undefeated in her senior season by skiing her way to a convincing 25-second victory over the 5km race. The Dartmouth women are no slouches, however; led by Erika Flowers in second, the Big Green women took the top team score. Corinne Prevot '13 again demonstrated that she is one of the top skiers for the Panthers, scoring another top 15 finish in 15th place.

Emily Attwood '14 and Keely Levins '13 completed the scoring contingent for Middlebury, placing back-to-back in 25th and 26th respectively; Attwood edged Levins by just six hundredths of a second. The Panther women ended the day with a fifth place team score.

The Alpine racers began their week-

end with a GS race on the slopes of the Dartmouth Skiway in Lyme Center, NH. UVM returned to the top of the scoreboard in the men's race, led by their stand-out first-year Jonathan Nordbotten. Cone paced the Panthers with his first of two third-place finishes of the weekend. Bryan Shpall '13 and Jake Lund '11 were not far behind Cone, placing 6th and 12th respectively. Middlebury collected the second place team score behind these three impressive performances.

In the women's GS race, Courtney Hammond of Dartmouth took the individual win; however, it was the Catamounts who again took the team victory. Panther captain Nicole Dvorak '11 was the best Middlebury skier on the day, just missing out on a podium finish in fourth place. Natasha Woodworth '11 and Bronwyn Oatley '13 completed Middlebury's scoring group in 12th and 15th places respectively.

With three Panthers in the top 15, the women took the final spot on the podium behind UVM and Dartmouth. After the first day of racing, UVM had a sizable lead over Dartmouth in second. Meanwhile, Middlebury was solidly in third place for the first time this season.

The second day of ski racing started with a 15km classic mass-start race for the Nordic women. Patterson of UVM continued to demonstrate that she is the woman to beat in the east by skiing to a commanding 32-second victory over the next finisher. Panther captain Sophie McClelland '11 skied a strong race to lead the Panthers with an 18th place finish.

Levins and Attwood were the next two finishers in 25th and 30th places, respectively. The Dartmouth women took the top team score, closely followed by UVM; the Panther women ended the day in fifth place.

The men raced two laps of a 10km course, which featured some truly brutal stretches of climbing. Tarling of Dartmouth took his second victory of the weekend, out-lunging teammate Eric Packer for the finish line. Marston had his best race of the season so far, finishing sixth on the day to pace the Panthers. Doug Debold '12 and Lustgarten both continued their strong seasons placing 12th and 14th respectively. Dartmouth took the top team score, but Middlebury was not far behind in third place.

Back on the Alpine slopes, the downhill racers tackled a brand new Slalom course. Dvorak described the new course as pretty flat, but said that it "included

more terrain and direction changes than the previous trail."

Kate Ryley of UVM demonstrated that she is one of the top women racers on the circuit, taking another victory in the Slalom. Woodworth was the top Panther finisher on the day, collecting her first top 10 finish of the season with a ninth place.

Dvorak and Oatley had strong races to finish back-to-back in 13th and 14th, respectively. The Catamount women took the top team score in the race, while the Panthers were fourth.

In the men's race, UVM's Nordbotten demonstrated that he is fallible, when he had to hike on his second run after putting down the fastest first run. However, UVM showed that they have great depth, by still placing three racers in the top four led by Tim Kelley.

Cone skied like he was anything but, taking his second third place in as many races. Andrew McNealus '13 was an impressive sixth, and Hig Roberts '14 just missed out on the top-10 placing 11th. Middlebury's strong skiing earned the men the second place team score behind UVM.

[Captain Bobby Poehling '11 said,] "It was good to finally get on the podium once again in the carnival circuit, [but] there is still quite a bit of room for improvement." Since the Dartmouth Carnival is the closest carnival to Valentines Day, "Carnie Crushes" were distributed following the races.

Dvorak commented that besides his impressive results, Cone also has attracted attention of another kind.

"Not only has Rob proved that he is one of the East's best collegiate skiers, rumor has it that he is also the best looking, making him one of the most talked about ski racers on the Carnival circuit."

This weekend, Middlebury College skiing will host the Middlebury Carnival, one of the oldest and most important traditions of Middlebury's winter Carnival. The 88th edition of the Carnival will take place from Friday, Feb.18 through Saturday, Feb. 19, and will feature alpine races at the Middlebury Snow Bowl, as well as Nordic races at the Rikert Ski Touring Center. Both the men's and women's ski teams will look to improve on their season-best finish at Dartmouth and defend home snow against the other visiting schools. Races start at 9:30 a.m. on Friday with men's slalom, followed immediately by the first run of the women's slalom. The Nordic skiers will open with the men's 10k freestyle at 10 a.m.

Swim team censured for misconduct

By Alyssa O'Gallagher,
Sports Editor

On Feb. 3, the College began investigations into an incident involving both the men's and women's swim teams on Feb. 2. Dean of the College and Chief Diversity Officer Shirley Collado released a statement saying that "violations of the college's hazing policy by the men's and women's swim teams," were investigated, and it was "determined that violations did occur."

In addition to the team-wide investigations, the College is conducting an ongoing investigation into "charges of hazing by individual members" of both teams to "determin[e] whether action will be taken regarding individual team members under [the College's] anti-harassment policy."

Both teams were barred from competition in the Middlebury Invitational, held on campus on Feb. 5, while investigation was pending. As of Feb. 8, the Department of Public Safety interviewed over 30 students regarding the incident. The following day, based on these findings, "college administrators determined that the women's swim team, with the exception of the first-year students, [would] not compete for the remainder of the season." The College administration has allowed the men's team to finish the season, and both teams will be on probation for the entirety of next year.

The College is still in the process of determining "possible violations of Middlebury's hazing policy" as it pertains to individual team members.

"Middlebury College has a zero tolerance policy for hazing and harassment, and takes all possible conduct violations very seriously," said Collado, concluding her statement.

Indoor track sets five new school records

By Maggie Moslander

Following a strong showing at Dartmouth over February Break, the Middlebury men's and women's indoor track and field teams took part in meets this past weekend at Boston University and Tufts University, breaking five school records in the process.

At Boston University, the women's team had impressive showings from Margo Cramer '12 in the 800m, who qualified for NCAA competition, and the women's distance medley relay (DMR) team of Cramer, Kaitlynn Saldanha '11, Juliet Ryan-Davis '13 and Katie Rominger '14. The women's DMR team set a school record with a time of 11:58.14.



Grace Doering '13 followed her NCAA-qualifying turn at Dartmouth with another impressive performance in the high jump, finishing second overall. At Tufts, Amanda Lee '11 won the mile, and Allison Astolfi '11 won the long jump.

Not to be outdone by the women, the men's team had spectacular performances at Boston University by Michael Schmidt '12 and John Davies '13, who set new school records in the 5000m and 3000m, respectively.

Rookie Bryan Holtzman '14 had a standout performance, breaking the school record in the 200m. Following up on these impressive individual outings was the men's DMR team of Schmidt, Davies, Addison Godine '11 and Peter Hetzler '14, which set a new school record with a time 9:57.49.


At Tufts, Nick Montello '12 broke his own record with a leap of 21'4.75 in the long jump, and sophomore Anthony Lee '13 won the 3000m.

These two strong showings by the men and the women should give them momentum into DIII New England's this weekend.



The Middlebury Great Eight

Rank	2/10	Team	Dillon's Discourses
1	1	Men's b-ball (21-1)	Establishing themselves as a serious National title contender with a win over Amherst.
2	3	Women's Hockey (16-3-1)	Throwin' it back to '06 with a big win over rival Plattsburgh.
3	5	Men's Hockey (11-6-5)	Tied for first in the NESCAC and riding high over their last 10 games.
4	2	Women's Squash (16-5)	They beat Williams, even if they did cost me my editor's pick. Thanks a lot, girls.
5	6	Skiing	Finally got the fourth-place monkey off their back at the Dartmouth Carnival.
6	7	Women's b-ball (14-8)	Finished the season strong with back-to-back wins over Trinity and Hamilton. Watch out, Colby
7	4	Men's Squash (13-9)	Free-fallin' after a couple of losses last weekend, but they'll turn it around.
8	8	Indoor Track	It's a really strong Great Eight when you can set five new school records and still be last.



File Photo / Andrew Podrygala

Heading into NESCAC tournament play, men's basketball sits atop the Great Eight.

Men's basketball jumps to second

By Andrew Silver
STAFF WRITER

As the NESCAC championship creeps closer and closer, the Middlebury men's basketball team keeps on rolling in the victories. With victories over previously undefeated Amherst and Trinity during the weekend, the team now finds itself 20-1 going into the final stretch of the regular season.

The weekend began with a 69-61 win over Amherst (21-1) on Friday in front of a crowd topping 1,000 at Pepin Gymnasium.

"I think our crowd, especially in the second half, gave us the boost we needed to pull away" said guard Jake Wolfin '13. "The team really loved the atmosphere they created."

The game was a defensive battle throughout, with Middlebury's top-ranked defense holding the Lord Jeffs to just 31 percent shooting from the floor. The first half of play was a frenzy in every sense of the term.

The contest became tied on seven separate occasions while low field goal percentages from both teams lead to hectic rebounding battles under the hoop. Either tied or trailing for most of the half, the Panthers gained the lead late in the period after, trailing by one, guard Nolan Thompson '13 connected on consecutive shots, one a three pointer, to give Middlebury a 30-26 advantage. However, with less than a minute remaining in the period, Lord Jeff Taylor Barrise drew a foul behind the three-point line, connecting on all three of his foul shot attempts and leaving the Panthers with only a one point half-time advantage.

Foul trouble again plagued Middlebury throughout the first portion of the second half as Amherst gained its biggest lead, 43-39, by successfully capitalizing on free throw attempts with 15 minutes left in regulation. However, with the game tied at 45 following a missed

field goal by the Panthers, center Andrew Locke '11 gave the Panthers a lead they would not give up, with a spectacular one-handed put-back dunk that got the whole crowd on their feet. Leading 56-54 with five minutes remaining in regulation, Middlebury capitalized on 13 of 18 free throw attempts to secure the 69-61 victory, handing Amherst their first loss. Forward Ryan Sharry '12 led the team with 18 points and 13 rebounds, while Wolfin added 16 points and Thompson had a dozen.

Just a day later, the Panthers again found themselves in an all-out battle against the Trinity Bantams (13-11).

"(Trinity) defended us very aggressively and shot the ball well from the three-point line" said coach Jeff Brown after the game. Committing 11 turnovers in the first half of play, the Panthers still held a 25-21 half-time advantage due in large part to forcing 10 Bantam turnovers.

Taking over the first part of the second half, team points leader Sharry scored nine points for the Panthers, giving the team a 36-29 advantage with fifteen minutes in regulation. Yet, with only eight minutes remaining in the game, Trinity was able to tie the score at 42 thanks



Andrew Podrygula, Photos Editor

Guard Andrew Plumley '11 handles the ball before a raucous Pepin home crowd in the Panthers' eight-point win over Amherst on Friday night.

to hot three-point shooting by Luke Macdougall and Eric Dean. The game would remain a tied frenzy until a 6-0 with less than three minutes left in regulation gave the Panthers a 57-51 advantage. However, up by two with only 13 seconds remaining, Middlebury sent Bantam Ian Fells to the foul line with a chance to tie the game. After missing the first free throw, Fells tried to intentionally miss the second, accidentally

banking it in and giving Middlebury the 57-56 victory. With the victory, one which closes out the NESCAC season for the Panthers, Middlebury not only secured its third straight 20-win season; the team also locked itself into the second seed of the upcoming NESCAC finals where they will play seventh-ranked Connecticut College at Middlebury on Saturday.



Andrew Podrygula, Photos Editor

The Panthers have now won seven of their last 10 games on the season after a slow start, and are currently tied for first place in the NESCAC.

Men's hockey continues to make up ground

By Owen Teach
STAFF WRITER

The second half of the men's hockey team's season has certainly been prettier to watch than the first. The Panthers, coming off a pair of victories against UMASS-Boston and Babson this past weekend, are now 11-6-5 on the season with a 9-4-4 record in the NESCAC, putting them tied for first in the conference.

This impressive record is a result of a 7-1-2 run over the team's last ten games, dating back a month ago to mid-January. This run has helped to erase the Panthers 4-5-3 sluggish start, and has breathed a new fire into the team's postseason aspirations. Head coach Bill Beaney said that several factors have contributed to his team's prolific rise in the standings.

"The group has really started to come together and realize individual roles in connection with overall

team goals," said Beaney. "Guys are much clearer with their own responsibilities, and as a result we are much more consistent day in and day out."

The emergence of several key freshmen contributors has also amped up the team's play. Louis Belisle '14 now has seven goals on the year and Michael Longo '14 has developed into one of the Panthers' strongest players.

"Louis came to us with a reputation as a great competitor," said Beaney. "He uses his speed to create opportunities and is also willing to be physical to win pucks for us. Meanwhile, Longo if you go by the stat book doesn't show up a lot, but he has been the most consistent guy on our team since day one. Ben Wiggins '14 has also been working hard for us, recently translating into some scoring."

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Women's squash takes down Ephs for second time in as many weeks

By Addi DiSesa
STAFF WRITER

On Sunday, the Middlebury College women's squash team defeated Williams College for the second time in a seven days, shredding any doubt that the Panthers' 6-3 victory over the Ephs in the NESCAC Team Championships two weeks ago was, in fact, an upset. By a narrow 5-4 margin, Middlebury eclipsed Williams last weekend in a match that came down to the wire, a treat for the hometown Panther fans.

Playing in its third home match of the season, the women's team provided a showcase of clutch performances in front on a roaring crowd in the Bubble. Before tallying the fifth and decisive win, however, the women needed to overcome early setbacks of the order not experienced in the team's previous win over Williams.

For the match, which began simultaneously with the men's team's match against Williams, Middlebury coach John Illig elected to use the College's five courts in a variation of the three-court match play system. In playing two separate matches (men's and women's) according to the three-court rubric, Illig necessarily staggered the start times of the men's and women's numbers seven, eight, and nine. The architecture of Sunday's match was different from the five-court format at the NESCAC Team Championships. It would take longer for the Panthers to record five match victories as a result.

First on court for Middlebury

were Virginia Shannon '11, Lindsay Becker '13 and Katie Yates '14, playing numbers three, six and nine, respectively. For the second time in a week, Shannon suffered a 3-0 defeat at the hands of Alli Rubin while first-year Yates once again notched a victory for the Panthers by a 3-0 margin, an improvement on her 3-1 victory in the players' previous meeting two weekends ago.

Though the first two matches completed yielded results virtually identical from the teams' previous matchup, Becker's match ended with a dramatically different result. After beating Williams' number six in a close five-game match in their first meeting, Becker fell to Kavitha Mannava in three games on Sunday. Following the first round of matches, Williams held a 2-1 advantage over Middlebury.

Abby Jenkins '14, Molly Hubbard '13 and Annie Ulrich '13 took to the courts next at numbers two, five, and eight, respectively. Due to the aforementioned space restrictions, however, Ulrich needed to wait for the completion of the men's number nine match before beginning her match.

Although Jenkins suffered a 3-0 loss, sending two games into win-by-two tiebreakers, Hubbard secured a second victory for the Panthers with a grueling five-game marathon match. Trailing two games to one, Hubbard rallied to a stunning 12-10 victory in the fourth game, sending the match to a decisive fifth game,

which she won 11-6 over Hannah Kaemmer from Williams.

"The match was so close at that point and we were almost in a position where we needed to win all of the remaining matches," said Shannon. "Molly's match re-energized our team at a crucial moment and set the stage for our remaining victories."

It did not take long to realize that Shannon's statement was all too true. Shortly after Hubbard secured the Panthers' second victory, Ulrich notched a four-game win at number eight in which she won the second game 12-10 after trailing 4-10 and having lost the first game. Ulrich's effort received less attention than it probably should have, however, as a loss in the second game of her match would have made a victory at the number eight position extremely difficult. Coming back to win a match after trailing two games to zero — "love" in squash lexicon — is as rare as it is both physically and mentally taxing. Overcoming a six-point deficit when an opponent is just one point from winning a game is almost unheard of in squash.

With the final round of matches set to begin, Elena Laird '11.5, Kathryn Bostwick '12 and Amanda Chen '14 needed to combine for two victories at their positions, numbers one, four, and seven, respectively, for the Panthers to win.

As Bostwick battled to a 3-1 victory, Laird played valiantly but

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this week in sports

Women's Basketball
The Panthers roll into the NESCAC tourney after a win over Trinity, pg. 22



games to watch
Men's Basketball vs. Conn. College, 2/18
Middlebury Ski Carnival, 2/18



Women's Hockey
Middlebury defeats Plattsburgh for the first time since 2006, pg. 24